



FIRE DEPT.
MERGER P 11

COPENHAGEN
REPORT P 13

MARLEY
& SCROOGE P 40

LANCE
SPARKS P 41

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Dreamin'
Man Live '92

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Forever**

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Your
Choice...

Gucci Mane
The State vs.
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Rarities

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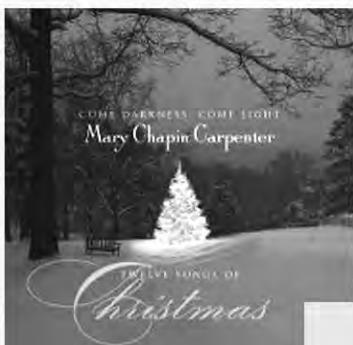


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Christmas

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inside THIS ISSUE

DECEMBER 10 - DECEMBER 17, 2009



The Grouch **35**

opinion:

4 Letters **9** Slant

news:

8 Briefs and Stories

analysis:

13 Copenhagen?

cover story:

14 Winter Reading

arts & entertainment:

26 Calendar **36** Nightlife

31 Galleries **38** Visual Arts

32 Movies **39** Theater

34 Music **41** Wine

etc:

41 Classifieds **46** Personals

EW CAST OF CHARACTERS

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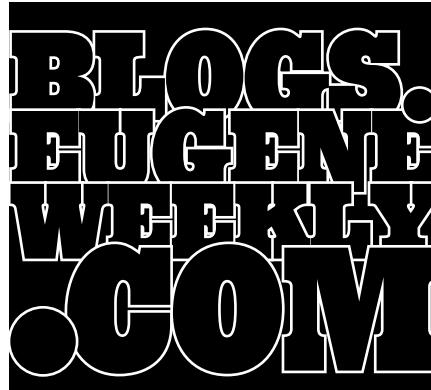
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The Crime of Homelessness

Powerful wealthy continue their assault

After the horrendous hate crime in Eugene of torching homeless black James Lemmon, we need to pay attention. Being homeless is not safe. The failed government we have experienced has led to many thousands of our citizens being homeless. One homeless advocate knows of 18 homeless persons who have died of exposure.

Abandoning fellow Americans is the crime committed by our government, called homelessness. Leaving people without shelter because they are poor is a crime of our broken society. Homelessness is a hate crime of the rich against the poor.

For about 20 years Oregon was governed in the interests of rich people. The rich gave themselves great tax cuts so they could "provide more jobs in Oregon." Instead they sent jobs overseas and pocketed great profits. This ruined the economy.

The rich reached the maximum of damage against the poor by ending the welfare program called General Assistance, taking away a pitifully small rent payment for more than 3,000 poor disabled Oregonians, sending them into homelessness. Homelessness hits persons with disabilities the hardest. Finally the last injury was the initiative that defunded needed taxes passed by the Legislature for ongoing education, human services and public safety. We are soon threatened by another initiative that must be passed with a yes vote or more needed services will be lost.

Early on our legislators hated alcoholics and substance abusers. They excluded them from all help, leaving them homeless longer than most.

Then they hated taking care of the mentally ill and mentally incompetent and left many mentally disabled people homeless.

Then they hated taking care of abused children and teens and left thousands of Oregon school children homeless.

Then our jails filled with people we hated, and we turned them out into our community, homeless.

Beyond these more easily recognized populations among the homeless are people who in recent months just lost their jobs.

All of our programs to help the homeless are filled to capacity. Now our communities criminalize people sleeping outside and living in vehicles.

We need safe, legal nighttime places for the homeless Oregonians.

The one "homeless shelter" in Eugene is strictly religious. It excludes many, including the disabled (who have no place to go). Many who have stayed in the shelter do not experience it to be safe.

Our state, county and city do not even provide temporary shelters in Eugene or Lane County.

We need legal, safe parking places for those homeless people who live in vehicles. We have only very few and very temporary legal parking places for those who are poor. Of course it would be better if we had a warm, dry place indoors.

We need supervised buildings for all mentally ill and mentally incompetent homeless people. Many are wandering the streets and face a police ban from being in downtown Eugene.

Most citizens think all homeless people are substance abusers and alcoholics. Such people are just a visible minority. Even so, it is better for the community by far if the minority of acting out substance abusers and alcoholics are not left homeless in Eugene and Lane County. They endanger other homeless persons and do damage to the rest of Eugene.

We need buildings opened for those who have lost jobs, lost apartments and lost homes. They are the newest homeless people in Eugene.

We need supervised overnight shelter for children and teens who do not feel safe "going home" to violence and abuse.

In October, 14,593 people receiving Food Stamps in Lane County had zero income – no money for rent. How many are homeless? We just don't know, but it is way more than the 2,000 that has been the official guess.

Rain and cold are now upon us. We are our "brother's keeper." The new Legislature began to take back some of the tax cuts to the rich. More fair taxes are needed. Let's also get and use stimulus funds to provide temporary and permanent housing and jobs. We can do it.

Jerry Smith, MSW, of Eugene is a retired social worker and a longtime volunteer and advocate with programs that assist the homeless.

IT IS BETTER FOR THE COMMUNITY

BY FAR IF THE MINORITY OF ACTING OUT SUBSTANCE ABUSERS AND ALCOHOLICS ARE NOT LEFT HOMELESS IN EUGENE AND LANE COUNTY.

THEY ENDANGER OTHER HOMELESS PERSONS AND DO DAMAGE TO THE REST OF EUGENE.

THIS MODERN WORLD



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SOLAR'S BENEFITS

After reading Warren Weisman's (Viewpoint, 12/3) negative assessment of solar power, I felt the need to supply some facts and corrections.

The energy payback time of photovoltaic panels is one to three years, meaning that during their 20 to 30 year lifetime photovoltaic panels produce 10 times more energy than is required for their manufacture. This value has improved substantially over the past decade and will continue to improve.

Photovoltaics produce low-voltage DC power, but this can be easily transformed to high voltage and/or converted to AC to power anything that runs on electricity.

When looking at potential to offset fossil energy use, solar beats energy crops hands down. Consider a comparison with corn-based ethanol. An acre of corn can optimistically provide 430 gallons of ethanol, or 10.1 megawatt-hours of energy, enough to drive a 30 mpg car about 13,000 miles. Using Weisman's own numbers (15 percent efficiency, 200 W/m² average solar energy), an acre of solar panels will annually produce 1,060 megawatt-hours, or more than 100 times more energy from the same land area. Given that electric motors are three times more efficient than internal combustion engines, the ultimate gains could be even greater.

Covering 1.5 percent of the contiguous U.S. with 15 percent efficient photovoltaics could supply 100 percent of our energy needs. This is roughly equivalent to the U.S. built area (buildings, roads and paved areas). With conservation this could be reduced substantially. The best biofuels would need to cover 50 percent or more of the contiguous U.S. to supply the same amount of energy. Wind energy is cost-effective in some areas, but even with maximum implementation it could not supply all of our energy needs.

Weisman's concerns about expense, emissions during manufacturing, toxic wastes and end-of-life disposal are valid, but they can all be overcome

by developing economies of scale, using green energy for manufacturing, changing manufacturing processes and developing recycling technology. Thus, solar panels are at present bound by economic and engineering challenges, not by "inescapable laws of physics," and photovoltaics will play a prominent role in our carbon-neutral energy future.

Mark Luterra
Corvallis

SEPTIC SPRawl

In your Nov. 19 "Slant" section, you advocate for keeping small towns on septic tanks as some sort of cure for sprawl. A home needs an acre of land to be permanently served by a septic tank. Expanding a town with one-acre lots is the ultimate in sprawl. This would gobble up farmland at 10 times the rate of more compact cities with sewers.

Assuming you really want small towns to be frozen in size, what should the current residents who live on one-fourth acre and one-half acre lots do? They have no room to replace a failing system.

Nancy Nichols
Deadwood

REFLECTIONS

To the UO: As to the sunlight dilemma between the dorm and the Long House, the magic solution: Do it with mirrors.

Vince Loving
Eugene

OFF TO THE RACES

Mark Harris' turgid prose is insufferable and his political ideas are increasingly backwards as one would expect from someone who wholly bases his approach on identity politics.

Harris' ardor for Obama bloomed most recently in the Nov. 25 EW, in which he compared the non-white kids trick-or-treating at his house with the U.S. president who just expanded the war in Afghanistan. Only Harris doesn't tell us that; he says, "Some of them have been the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

best examples of humanity in arts, letters, the sciences."

Indisputable. But then, "Now one of them leads the nation seeking higher ground."

Prosecuting imperialist wars is not higher ground, nor is overseeing the largest upward transfer of wealth in history. Nor is strengthening the hand of insurance capital against the health care needs of the people. The fetishization of blackness, purchased by Wall Street, has made this series of betrayals possible. Our kids are and will be paying for these massive rip-offs the rest of their lives.

But Harris says he was "proud of them without even knowing who they were" after colorfully describing their non-whiteness. Could Harris motivate himself to feel proud of all children, regardless of their skin color, because they are the definition of beauty and hope?

Harris dubs himself "Educated Black Man" and fantasizes scaring the likes of Samuel Thurston, the representative of the Oregon Territory in the U.S. Congress. Thurston worried that free slaves would join with "savages" and "long bloody wars would be the fruits of the comingling of the races." Now we know it was all a scam to steal the land from Native Americans and industrialize the continent most affordably.

Kevin Hornbuckle
Eugene

DARK SIDE OF MOTOROLA

EW's Gear Guide (12/3) promoted Motorola's "MOTOROKR T505 Bluetooth In-car Speakerphone with Digital FM Transmitter." A week earlier the U.S. Department of Energy announced that it will award \$900,000 to Motorola Israel and SmartSync to develop an energy grid management system that will support Israel's illegal West Bank settlement projects.

Motorola Israel also provides "virtual fences" to dozens of these settlements that allow continued annexation of Palestinian land.

The exclusive provider of encrypted mobile phone technology to the Israeli military under a \$100 million contract, their communications equipment supports over 600 Israeli military checkpoints restricting free movement of Palestinians within their own communities.

Motorola has provided fuses for Israel's MK80 series of bombs used against civilians during last winter's Gaza massacre and earlier in Israel's 2006 attack on Lebanon when over a million cluster bomblets were rained upon southern Lebanon during cease-fire negotiations, with a high percentage remaining unexploded like land mines making their orchards and fields too dangerous to harvest.

They even obliquely brag about it. Moto's commercials for the "Droid" phone clearly suggest this dark side of Motorola's business, showing stealth bombers blasting

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Droid phones near puzzled fishermen, farmers and motorists.

A boycott, divestment and sanctions movement is growing rapidly among citizens worldwide who deplore Israel's land theft, suffocating occupation and brutality against the Palestinian people. All Motorola products are targeted, and we are disappointed to see these promoted in *EW*. To learn more about the boycott, its justification and the strategy it supports, visit www.pacbi.org, www.bdsmovement.net and www.endtheoccupation.org.

Jack Dresser
Mariah Leung
Al-Nakba Awareness Project

BRING TO LIGHT

Let me commend Joanna Birns for drawing attention to the crosswalks on River Road south of Silver Lane (letters, 11/12). They are poorly lit and are an invitation for a disaster. Fortunately there is a reasonable solution. South of downtown Corvallis are several crosswalks on Hwy.

99, a street at least as busy as River Road. Those crosswalks are near a school, and there are often children present. However, in contrast to the "take your chance" crossings on River Road, the crosswalks in Corvallis are lighted and even solar powered. When driving on River Road at night, I frequently worry I won't see someone venturing into the darkness to cross. I doubt I am alone. Something must be done before tragedy strikes.

Charles Varani
Eugene

GOVERNMENT'S HAND

Massive government bailouts draw public outrage. OK, sounds reasonable enough, so reasonable in fact that nobody asks why. It is almost a universal article of faith that the government shouldn't interfere in business and that free markets are the making of capitalism. But wait a minute — is it true?

In the beginning, the government primed capitalism's pump with colossal

giveaways of public resources — right-of-ways went to railroads, forests went to timber companies, mineral rights to miners and drillers and land itself went to farmers. During wars the government poured money into the private sector, and when peace came, Washington walked away from its investments. In peacetime, government helps business through tax laws, policy initiatives and court rulings.

Government also pays for the basic research that has led to blockbuster products from computers to pharmaceuticals. It builds highways and other infrastructure essential to transportation, educates workers, facilitates trade, keeps the peace, and well, the list is pretty much endless. Agribusiness needs a direct government subsidy each year to stay afloat, and the manufacturing sector would take a huge hit if mammoth defense budgets ever happened to shrink.

Capitalism *requires* state subsidies. Government bailouts in one form or another are completely natural. Without Washington,

the markets would chew capitalism up and spit it out in less than a generation.

This time, though, bailouts are right out there in the open where nobody can ignore them. The public has drunk deeply, and now it is unleashing anger on anyone within reach.

But this time, free markets aren't free. There's a chance to break the cycle. That begins with understanding capitalism as neither good nor bad, but accurately just as it is, not only as relying on markets but also as depending on subsidies. Only then can we put the focus where it will do the most good, not on anger but on making future bailouts as small as possible. It's up to ordinary taxpayers to save themselves from boom and bust. Everybody else is making too much money.

Douglas Brown
Eugene

LIVING WITH DECISIONS

George Beres (letters, 11/25) is right on the mark. There is no more powerful

viewpoint BY RAY NEFF

Solar on the Horizon

The whole-system approach works

It's great to see solar photovoltaics (PV) gaining such prominence in our community's energy discussion, even if some of the points are based on misconceptions that are cleared up with new information.

A whole-systems approach, renewable energy Feed-in Tariff (FIT) policy addresses the interrelated challenges of climate change, job creation, energy security and sustainable economic development. Simply put, a FIT requires the electric utility to purchase all electricity produced by any customer-generator. The best policies set a rate designed to pay off the generation equipment with a reasonable rate of return, over a 15-20 year contract. This provides investment security to lenders since customer-generators have a guaranteed income to ensure repayment. Loan repayments could even be attached to property taxes as the Berkeley FIRST incentive program does. FIT rates should also be differentiated by renewable energy technology to ensure a diverse energy mix and efficient operation without generating windfall profits. Program costs are spread across all ratepayers equitably since we all use the energy. FIT policy democratizes energy production, leveling the playing field between potential generators whether they're a traditional energy corporation, a homeowner or small business with little disposable income yet good credit and a suitable rooftop, or a farmer with under-utilized agricultural land. Everyone contributes to the restructuring of the electricity supply network.

A 2009 report on the potential impacts of climate change on the Upper Willamette River Basin, from the Climate Leadership Initiative at the UO, suggests that by around 2040 our bioregion is likely to see: an increased average summer temperatures of 4 to 6° F; slightly less precipitation during spring, summer and fall; and a 60 percent decrease in snowpack in the Pacific Northwest.

A 2008 study by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) on future Northwest power supply states that by 2013, "the flexibility of the hydro system has reached the limits of its ability to meet sustained peak loads, such as a three-day cold snap or heat wave in a dry year." Climate change will likely have a significant impact on both the demand for electricity and our historically inexpensive, abundant hydropower resources.

Experience in Germany and more than 40 other countries demonstrates that a FIT is the most effective policy instrument to rapidly deploy new renewable energy



generation capacity, drive down costs and encourage technological innovation, while creating jobs and investment in the local economy. Similar policies have been established in Gainesville, Fla., and in the state of Vermont during 2009,

while states from Michigan to Arizona to Oregon are developing FIT policies. Germany's FIT has been so successful that they've eliminated all other solar subsidies. The program costs about \$4.50 per month per household for all additional renewable capacity.

Germany, with even cloudier weather than Oregon, installed close to 3 gigawatts of solar in 2009 alone, while the U.S. total is only about 800 megawatts (MW). More than 40 German companies now produce solar PV components, employing 20,000 people. Between 2000 and 2004, electricity generated from solar PV in Germany increased nine-fold, while the volume of wind and biomass generated electricity doubled. Electricity from all renewables in 2006 in Germany increased to a total of 11.8 percent.

The industries continue to grow.

Research indicates that we could generate 68 MW of electricity in Eugene from solar PV on large commercial and public buildings alone; this does not include additional capacity from homes, parking lots or brownfields. Three of four EWEB-owned hydroelectric projects generated 71 MW in 2007 (of 185 MW total EWEB-owned hydro). Every city in the world, like Eugene, has under-utilized urban infrastructure that could be generating electricity from solar and other renewable energy technologies.

A 2007 University of California study shows that solar PV "creates more jobs per megawatt of capacity than any other energy technology – 20 manufacturing and 13 installation/maintenance jobs per megawatt." Installing 68 MW of solar in Eugene could create close to 2,000 jobs in the local economy, while LCC's Northwest Energy Efficiency Institute continues to train the next generations of solar and energy efficiency technicians. Energy dollars recirculate longer in the local economy, capital begins to flow to electricity customers who become energy producers, while neighbors are employed in the growing renewable energy industry.

In Germany, the renewable energy industry now employs more people than the nuclear energy and coal industry combined, while in Denmark more than 150,000 families have invested in wind turbines individually or through cooperatives.

Establishing the right renewable energy feed-in tariff policy design and taking advantage of the policy mechanism's design flexibility provides citizens, businesses, farmers, government or non-profit agencies and all members of the Oregon community the opportunity to mitigate the impacts of climate change while improving the economy for Oregonians, now and into the future.

Ray Neff recently authored The Right FIT for Oregon: Solar PV in Eugene as a Case Study in Feed-in Tariff Policy Design for his master of community and regional planning degree at the UO.



BUY A C D AND GET A T-SHIRT



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

persuader than shame.

Informing their neighbors, their employers, their employees, the people they do business with, the people they want to do business with, the people they socialize with, etc.: All this really does is to force these people to actually live with the decisions they make and prevent them from hiding behind a corporation, a statute or anything else.

Frank Skipton
Springfield

GUN PLAY

Last weekend my partner and I were getting ready for my mother's birthday lunch while the children were playing in the other room. At one point we heard the doorbell and waited to see my parents walk in the house. When they didn't, we asked who had rang the bell. The boys told us the mailman had because he wanted to know if they were OK. Apparently, he had peered into our window and was concerned about the 5- and 9-year-olds who were playing guns. We are aware of the sensitivities around this type of play and don't want to make anyone uncomfortable. We hadn't considered the feelings of possible peeping-tom mailmen.

Shortly after this, the police arrived, with weapons drawn on the kids, instructing them to open the door and show their hands. Seems our mailman called 911 and told them the 9-year-old had a gun and he was afraid for his life. What? So frightened he took time to put his face

against our window and stand at the door to ring the bell? After the police realized what was going on, they admitted this is the type of overreaction a person might have to worry about if they were out in the community — *not* in their home.

If it's standard protocol to act this way when police are responding to a "gun call," then what is standard protocol? What if my 9-year-old freaked out and did something that made it look like he was pointing the gun in their direction? Would they shoot him? Over a plastic toy he was playing with in his own home?

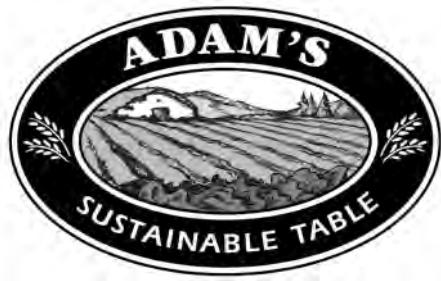
People working out in the community need to be able to rationalize how their actions may affect their community members. They shouldn't peep into windows that aren't theirs, and if there is a concern regarding children, they should ask to speak to a parent/adult.

Maybe, if police officers are incapable of discretion, they should go through very specific training that enables them to deal with situations involving children. A vulnerable 9-year-old boy should never have to have a gun pulled on him. The police are now one big group of community servers my son will not turn to if he needs help. I don't blame him.

Amanda Black
Eugene

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JOHN GIOVANNI CALLS IT QUILTS

Eugene's "Next Big Thing" is now Eugene's Once Big Thing.

Monday, a former band member confirmed that John Giovanni, the band that won *Eugene Weekly's* "Next Big Thing, Eugene" singles contest with its song "Slumber" has broken up. Singer/songwriter Genevieve Bellemare said in a Dec. 7

phone interview that the split up took place last Thursday. "It was one of the worst situations I've ever been in my whole, entire life," Bellemare said, adding that it was her decision to call it quits due to artistic inconsistencies. "Together we have made some really awesome music, [but] consistency wise, it's really hard for us to ever be on the same page," Bellemare said of the band, which also included bassist Zev Levine, drummer Nate Curry and keyboardist and composer Eric Valentine.

According to Bellemare, she and Valentine will continue making music together. "I'm never having another keyboardist," she said, describing their artistic collaboration as "like two heads together." Currently, the two of them are working with an agent/producer and plan on recording with a new lineup in the future.

"This is something that I have to do," Bellemare said. "I'm not a selfish person at all, but there are points where you just kind of have to be selfish."

As for the band's year together, Bellemare says she has "all good memories," even if the situation is something less than amicable right now. "I have absolutely no regrets. It wasn't anything that anybody was doing wrong. There's no negativity that made this break up."

You can read the Nov. 12 cover story "Break on Through: John Giovanni Storms Next Big Thing Competition" at www.eugeneweekly.com/2009/11/12/coverstory — Rick Levin

ECO-SABOTEUR STAYS IN TERRORIST UNIT



In a letter to *EW* from the Communications Management Unit (CMU) of a federal prison in Marion, Ill., eco-saboteur Daniel McGowan writes that he is not "holding his breath" for a transfer out of the special terrorist unit in which he has been held. McGowan was transferred to the unit August of 2008 from a low-security prison.

McGowan was convicted as part of what the FBI called Operation Backfire: environmentally motivated property destruction across the Northwest. No one was injured in any of the actions. He continued to speak out on environmental and justice issues from prison. McGowan was never told why he was sent to the unit.

The only other eco-saboteur currently in a CMU is Stanislas Meyerhoff who is currently at the CMU in Indiana. Animal rights activist Andrew Stepanian, given a three-year sentence under the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act in a separate case, was also held at the Marion CMU.

The CMUs were covertly established late in 2007 by the U.S. Department of Justice and have been dubbed "Little Guantánamos" by the inmates. The American Civil Liberties Union has filed a case alleging that the units were unlawfully built without public input and are disproportionately made up of Muslim prisoners, many of whom have never been convicted of terrorism.

McGowan writes his unit "has received a few more prisoners — up to 31 now with two-thirds being Muslim men."

He also writes that the prisoners in the tightly monitored unit recent by received an increase in phone calls — one to two 15 minute calls a week — and their visits have increased to two a month, but those visits remain non-contact. "While these changes help a little bit," he writes, "I can't help but to think it's just an example of our leashes getting longer."

McGowan's imprisonment at the CMU comes up for review in February, he writes, and he intends to ask for a transfer. But he suspects his "terrorism enhancement" will be used as a justification for keeping him in the unit.

The unit's review document states that among other criteria, a prisoner can be kept in the CMU if "the inmate's current offense(s) of conviction, offense conduct or activity while incarcerated, indicates a propensity to encourage, coordinate facilitate, or otherwise act in furtherance of, illegal activity through communications with persons in the community."

McGowan points out that his conviction "obviously cannot change." McGowan has taken classes while in prison, including completing a paralegal course, but he writes, when it comes to leaving the terrorist unit, "My impeccable behavior and participation in classes are seemingly irrelevant." — Camilla Mortensen

news briefs

BIO MASS LINKED TO GREENHOUSE POLLUTION

Eugene's tiny Oregon Toxics Alliance continues to nip at the heels of the Seneca Biomass plant. Seneca's permit to build a wood burning biomass plant in west Eugene was approved by Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) in October, but OTA and other critics say the plant poses health risks to low income families, Latinos and people of color, and a disproportionately large number of disabled people from the pollution it will release.

OTA Executive Director Lisa Arkin said the group, which earlier filed an administrative appeal with the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA), has now also filed a contested case appeal under an Oregon law (ORS 183.415) that says that people affected by actions taken by state agencies have a right to be informed of their rights and remedies and are entitled to a public hearing.

Arkin said one of the issues the contested case appeal addresses — in addition to environmental justice issues, two pollution sources under one aggregate permit, particulate matter and others — is greenhouse gases. "It's not really been reported to the public the amount of greenhouse gases it will release," she said. "We've been saying all along that Seneca should report this as part of the permit."

Arkin said Seneca's permit should have "more stringent controls restricting greenhouse gases."

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) director Lisa Jackson announced at press conference on Dec. 7 that greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide endanger people's health. According to Jackson, a 2007 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that said an endangerment finding such as this one was needed before the EPA could use the federal Clean Air Act to regulate carbon dioxide and five other greenhouse gases from power plants, factories and cars. Jackson also said a similar finding was sent to the Bush administration, but was not acted on.

Even as Eugene seems to be going forward with this controversial biomass burning plant, the state of Massachusetts has temporarily stopped considering applications for new biomass burning permits under its renewable energy portfolio.

A Dec. 3 letter from the Massachusetts energy commissioner to "biomass energy stakeholders," said the suspension will last until the state "has the necessary confidence that its incentives for biomass energy will produce appropriately sustainable results."

Massachusetts commissioned a six-

month study of the environmental impacts of biomass energy plants from the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences. The state won't move forward on the permits for at least a year.

As in Oregon, wood-burning power plants were originally encouraged by the state, but due to questions about the amount biomass plants would contribute to global warming, Massachusetts has been backing away from that support.

At their Dec. 8 meeting, LRAPA voted 5-2 to decline to hear OTA's administrative appeal, and requested their counsel to give a recommendation on the contested case appeal at the agency's January meeting, Arkin said. — Camilla Mortensen

CLIMATE: WILL OREGON FINALLY DO SOMETHING?

With the bigwigs gathered in Copenhagen this week for a world meeting on climate change (see analysis, page 13), Oregon appears on the brink of taking its first real action to actually fight the menace. Maybe.

Last summer a bill to require powerful regional transportation plans (RTPs) to reduce global warming failed in the state Legislature. As a warming booby prize, environmental groups pushing for the bill got an official committee to further study the issue and report back.

Now that committee, the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Task Force, appears on the verge of recommending that yes, the state actually should require the city transportation plans to reduce global warming, according to a draft report.

Whether that actually happens is another question. The draft report hints at wiggle room. One section argues that improvements in road "speed and smoothness of traffic flow" can reduce greenhouse gas emissions. That's not what happened when Los Angeles designed smooth freeways that simply attracted more driving and traffic jams.

Another section of the task force's draft calls for "flexibility" in greenhouse rules to reflect local "aspirations." Springfield was dead set against the earlier global warming bill. A Eugene staff push to lobby against reducing global warming was blocked by a 5-4 tie council vote broken by the mayor.

The powerful Oregon Department of Transportation has also shown little interest in actually doing anything about global warming. ODOT is in the process of widening freeways in Eugene and throughout the state and has pushed for a 12-lane, \$3 billion freeway bridge over the Columbia River.

Previous efforts at reducing driving through the RTPs for livability, health and saving money have floundered. A decade ago cities balked at a tough rule requiring a reduction in driving per capita (VMT), and it was eliminated.

Although much depends on how it's enforced, the draft task force report does contain strong arguments for immediate action. The report cites studies of the "extensive and destructive" likely impacts of climate change on Oregon's environment, not

to mention an estimated \$3.3 billion in projected annual costs from climate change in Oregon. — *Alan Pittman*

DID DEFazio FLIP-FLOP ON JAIL?

Jail deputies used a letter from Congressman Peter DeFazio to bludgeon Lane County Commissioners for not immediately spending federal timber money on hiring back laid-off deputies earlier this year.

DeFazio's letter warned that not spending the money on the jail now could hurt efforts to get more federal timber money.

So where did commissioners get the idea that they should be so fiscally conservative with the money?

Well, perhaps from DeFazio himself. For a November 2008 article, DeFazio told *Eugene Weekly*: "If I were a county commissioner, I would be extraordinarily conservative with these funds as they come in, and I would put as much of it as I could away."

Audio of the full interview is online at tiny.cc/Defaziojail (the quote comes in after about two minutes).

DeFazio noted in the interview that rising federal deficits will make the timber payments money harder to pass in the future. That appears to be happening right now.

An Associated Press investigation this week made the timber payments a prime target for cuts. The AP found that efforts to pass the timber money by spreading the pork has converted the program into a "sprawling entitlement" with little fiscal logic.

If timber payments don't continue, the jail could now face a precipitous drop in funding rather than having a reserve to cushion a transition. — *Alan Pittman*

UO MINOR IN WAR STUDIES?

The UO's Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) is taking the initial steps to add a military science minor to the UO's course catalogue in the coming academic years, according to Lt. Col. Thomas Lingle, professor of military science.

"There are many students that already take these classes; it would be nice if they could walk away with a minor," he said. "Whether you are someone who just happens to take cadet courses or if you are looking into being a cadet, having this minor is beneficial."

However, some students are speaking out against this new addition. When the UO Student Senate voted to pass a resolution declaring support for this addition, student Sen. Tyler Griffin protested against the university incorporating the ROTC, an institution that enforces the U.S. military's don't-ask-don't-tell (DADT) policy, in its curriculum.

"The idea of a policy implemented in order to require people to deny who they are and how they want to express themselves is the antithesis to what our military purports to fight for: the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," Griffin said. "Why

would we, as university students, pay to take classes that discriminate against our personal lives?"

The DADT measure is a federal law passed in 1993 by President Bill Clinton prohibiting gay men and lesbians from openly serving in the military. This mandate was a compromise from a previous policy that completely barred all gays from military service.

Although the DADT policy is enforced within the university's ROTC program, Lingle did not believe that this is an indication of discriminatory practices against university students. "We follow the current policy because it is the law," he said. "However, any student at the university would be able to obtain this minor and take these 100-200 level classes whether there is military service involved or not."

Christopher Holman, Army veteran and current Arabic instructor at the UO, did not see the university incorporating a military science minor as conducive to its sanctioning of the DADT policy. "I don't see why one shouldn't exist if it's already a de facto minor," he said. "It is a body of ideas, however unpopular, and similar to other fields in that regard."

According to Lingle, it will likely take at least two years until the Military Science Department has its own accredited minor. The proposal for this addition is in its initial stages and is still subject to review at several levels of the university's administration. — *Deborah Bloom*

CLEARCUTS AND CARBON

Saving endangered species or clearcuts for kids? The State Land Board, made up of Gov. Ted Kulongoski, Secretary of State Kate Brown and State Treasurer Ben Westlund, went on a tour of the Elliott State Forest last week led by the Oregon Department of Forestry.

The Elliott is a rare native ecosystem in Oregon's Coast Range that is home to several species listed under the Endangered Species Act including spotted owls, marbled murrelets and Oregon Coast coho salmon. It is also part of the Common School Fund lands that are logged to generate money for Oregon's schools.

"I'm a proud parent, and I want money for schools, but not at the expense of the Elliott," said Josh Laughlin of Cascadia Wildlands.

Cascadia Wildlands was not originally invited on the tour but asked to come along after they were notified of the plans. Along with other conservation groups, they followed the official state SUVs in their own cars.

Louise Solliday, Department of State Lands director, said the tour was publicly noticed via an email list and organized by the DSL and ODF to show the State Land Board "the issues being addressed on the ground, particularly as they relate to the draft Habitat Conservation Plan and the management strategies proposed in the plan."

Cascadia Wildlands has a lawsuit against the 1995 HCP, the plan under which the forest was logged this summer. That plan included "incidental take" permits for spot-

• It looks like the Eugene police auditor does not want the **Taser incident** involving a Chinese student to become a community impact case like the Tasing of Ian Van Ornum that is still unresolved. We hear the Chinese students are OK with a more speedily closed case as long as issues of excessive force are closely examined. Unlike the Van Ornum case, there's not a lot of evidence to investigate. And the outcome of either kind of case is likely the same. Our new auditor and Civilian Review Board merely shrug at outrageous police behavior.

This case is not going away soon. A tort notice against the city is likely to be filed within 180 days of the incident, which happened Sept. 22. KVAL-TV has been denied the few seconds of video footage from the Taser's camera, but we hear there's not much to see, and the Tasered student doesn't want the video of him writhing in his underwear to go public. Meanwhile a fascinating Tim Lewis interview with outgoing CRB member Rick Brissenden is now posted on www.youtube.com/user/PictureEugene. In that interview Brissenden talks about why he was ousted by the council. He figures he offended some councilors by telling them their unwarranted restrictions on former auditor Dawn Reynolds violated her charter-mandated independence. He is right, of course.

• Will passing the two **state tax measures** in January mean a net loss of jobs in Oregon or a net gain? That appears to be the big debate so far, at least as defined by the opponents of Measures 66 and 67. But the job loss numbers being batted around by various economists are just speculation based on questionable assumptions. Several variables are being mostly ignored in this narrow debate: Matching federal funding (and the jobs that go with it) will be lost if Oregon cuts back on social services; high-skilled state jobs will be lost with additional budget cuts; and further diminishing of public safety, education and health and human services will make Oregon a less desirable place to live, work and do business for many years to come.

The argument can easily be made that *failure* to pass Measures 66 and 67 will be "job-killing" in the long run. We don't really know, so let's move on to other issues. For example, is it fair for two-thirds of corporations that do business in Oregon to pay only \$10 a year in state income taxes? Is it fair for Oregon businesses with sales that are all outside of Oregon to pay no state income taxes? Is it really unfair to ask the wealthiest 2.5 percent of Oregon's population to pay 1 or 2 percent more in state income taxes?

The people we elected to the Oregon Legislature put a remarkable amount of work into coming up with a modest tax plan that makes sense for Oregon in these difficult times. Let's not let simplistic arguments wreck a commonsense plan and endanger our state's long-term vitality.

• **Time to wear a gas mask** along with a scarf? Cold weather and temperature inversions this week have triggered the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency to issue a "yellow" home heating advisory, restricting the burning of wood stoves at a time when home heating needs are the highest of the year. Our air is so bad that even folks up in the south hills can smell the particulates from local wood product mills down in the valley. LRAPA recently approved a permit for even more pollution from a Seneca biomass generator. We're pleased to see the Oregon Toxics Alliance continue to stand up and challenge an industrial plant that will only add to our valley's deadly poor air quality.

• President Obama's plans to escalate the **war in Afghanistan/Pakistan** puts progressives in a bind. Do we support him or fight him? Obama has always backed the Afghanistan war, so his continued support is consistent. The escalation is disturbing, particularly since Afghanistan has always been a bloody quagmire for any occupying force. Now Pakistan complicates the region's instability. And billions of our shrinking national treasure are being blown up (literally) in the Mideast. So what's a leftie to do? Well, we can support Obama on health care, finance reform, climate action, diplomacy and other progressive issues; and at the same time protest loudly against the folly of military intervention as our predominant foreign policy. We're skeptical that Obama can pull off positive outcomes in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iraq; but he's certainly putting more thoughtful deliberation into it than his predecessor who got us into these messes.

SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com

ted owls and marbled murrelets. Incidental take in this case is a euphemism for ESA listed species that are killed or lose habitat due to logging.

The lawsuit says the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service failed to reconsider the impacts of logging the forest's old-growth trees on the northern spotted owl in light of new information showing the owl is facing increased threats. "Owl populations are plummeting," Laughlin said.

ODF has been working to create a new Habitat Conservation Plan, but according to Laughlin, "It's looking like the new HCP might not happen." The new HCP, he said, faces criticism from the NOAA Fisheries

Service for fish buffers that are too small and would not protect salmon from the effects of logging.

The State Land Board heard "invited testimony from a number of interests that will provide a range of views about future management about the forest," during its Dec. 8 meeting, Solliday said. The earliest the board would make a recommendation about the forest would be at its February meeting, she said.

Cascadia Wildlands would like the SLB to consider "a whole new vision for the Elliott, looking at the older rainforest through a carbon lens," Laughlin said. In a similar vein to what Lane County Commissioner

KELLY CRANE

A military brat, Kelly Crane spent most of her childhood abroad and felt culture shock when her father retired to Little Rock, Ark. "I finished high school early and came to Oregon," says Crane, who did return to Fayetteville for degrees in philosophy, but came back, settled here, waited tables at Mazzi's for years, earned a UO teaching credential and taught in Creswell. She was laid off, got married, and home-schooled her son Jesse through the 1990s. "Giving back to the community has always been important to me," says Crane, who volunteered for years as an advocate for abused children and kids in foster care. With her son off to college and her marriage ending in 2006, Crane carpooled to Portland once a week for two years to complete an MSW from PSU. She was hired as a mental health therapist by Looking Glass Youth & Family Services, where she'd served a year as an intern. "I found my calling," she says. "Half my caseload is juvenile sexual offenders. I also work with trauma victims." A 25-year volunteer at the Oregon Country Fair, Crane has coordinated the Teen Crew for 20 years. "It's an apprenticeship program for youth," she says. "They rotate to different crews and learn what it takes to put the fair on."



Pete Sorenson has proposed for generating county money from federal forest lands, Laughlin said his group proposes that, among other non-clearcut options, the Elliott could be used as part of a carbon cap-and-trade program.

"I'm not necessarily pro cap-and-trade," Laughlin said, "but I'd absolutely consider carbon among options that don't consist of clearcutting the Elliott for schools." — Camilla Mortensen

ACTIVIST ALERT

• An open house for the **Walnut Station Mixed Use Center** is planned for 5:30 to 7:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Eugene Public Library Bascom/Tykeson Room. A draft of the city Planning Division's final recommendations for the area will be available for review and comments, and can be found at www.eugene-or.gov/walnut or call 682-5485.

• **Eugene Media Action** is holding its free annual general meeting and the showing of two films at 7 pm Thursday, Dec. 10, upstairs at Growers Market, 454 Willamette St. The films are *Independent Media in a Time of War* featuring Amy Goodman, and *Let's Put the Public Back into Public Broadcasting*. Contact David Zupan at zupandavid@gmail.com

• **Beyond War Eugene** is hosting an open house celebrating the opening of an office in downtown Eugene, from 12:30 to 4 pm Friday, Dec. 11, at 30 E. Broadway #151, which is down the alley behind Pacific University, Adam's Sustainable Table and Café Maroc. The group is working "to move the world beyond war in this century," says volunteer Anne Milhollen. "We'll present the Library Project, a national project that focuses on the books, films and discussions that support the values that will carry us beyond war — that war is obsolete, that we are all one, interconnected and interdependent on this planet, and that the means we use determine the ends we achieve — wars beget more wars." Email bweugene@beyondwar.org

• A vigil and educational outreach for **single-payer health insurance** is planned for noon Sunday, Dec. 13, at the Eugene Public Library downtown. Sponsored by the Industrial Workers of the World and Health Care for All Oregon. Contact info: iconoclasmo.scott@gmail.com A follow-up organizational gathering of the Single Payer Action Committee is planned for 7 pm Wednesday, Dec. 16, upstairs at Grower's Market, 454 Willamette St.

• **Doctors Without Borders** is showing a documentary film *Living in Emergency* at 8 pm Monday, Dec. 14, at Cinemark 17 at the Gateway Mall in Springfield. Ticket prices vary by location, from \$10 to \$12.50. The screening will include a live simulcast town hall discussion broadcast from the Skirball Center stage in New York to 444 cinemas in 47 states.

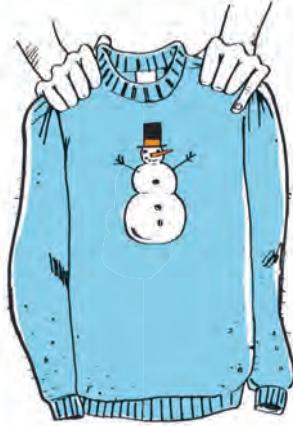
• A free movie, **Secret of Oz**, will be shown at 7 pm Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Cozmic Pizza, 8th and Charnelton. The film, about "taking back financial control of the U.S. from the bankers" is sponsored by the Industrial Workers of the World and Eugene Springfield Solidarity. Contact info: iconoclasmo.scott@gmail.com

• The film **Occupation 101** about the Palestinian struggle will be shown at 8:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 17, at Cozmic Pizza. The event is a fundraiser for LCC student activist Michael King, who is one of about 500 activists from around the world who will be traveling to Gaza to join the Dec. 31 Gaza Freedom March. Donations can be made at apps.facebook.com/causes/389302

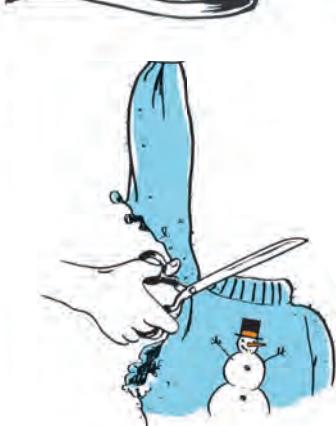
• Eugene's **Climate and Energy Action Plan** brought together a group of professionals and residents Dec. 1 to talk about land use and transportation. Strategies were discussed for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, reducing fossil fuel use and preparing for changes in climate. Future discussions are on consumption and waste Jan. 6, health and social services Feb. 4, and natural resources March 4. The meetings run from 6 to 9 pm at the EWEB community meeting room, 500 E. 4th Ave. More information at www.sustaineugene.com/eugeneclimate

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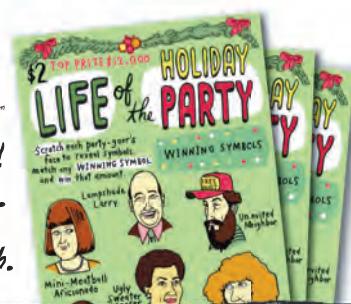
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Urge to Merge

Fire department marriage lacks a pre-nup

A rush to merge the Eugene and Springfield fire departments could affect 300,000 people with higher taxes, subsidized sprawl and less public accountability, according to the fine print of a long staff report on the proposal.

"There is little question that additional tax support will be required," states a merger report to elected officials from Eugene and Springfield staff.

The tax increase would most likely come from a new special district. "These districts show a higher degree of success historically to secure public willingness to pass tax measures," the report states.

But Lane County Commissioner Bill Dwyer warned that voters will think that they are already paying for fire protection. "To charge the people twice for a service they already receive won't go over," he said.

Another thorny issue will be compression required by state measures capping property taxes. The compression could mean that other jurisdictions would have less money for police, fire, jail, library and other services.

Cities would also have to compete on the ballot with the new district. "Adding another entity to compete for scarce resources concerns me," said Eugene City Councilor Alan Zelenka.

The biggest driver for a tax increase is runaway ambulance costs. But there's little indication that local bureaucrats have done much to control spending. Eugene/Springfield's ambulance budget has increased 10 percent per year for the past four years. Eugene/Springfield now charges \$1,600 for a ride to the hospital. That's four to eight times what Medicare/Medicaid considers "reasonable" for the service.

The \$1,600 bill also appears to be far higher than other local governments charge. In 2005 the federal Government Accountability Office surveyed hundreds of providers and found ambulance charges averaged \$415.

Controlling spiraling ambulance costs would require tough labor negotiations. At current pay scales, a Eugene ambulance driver can make up to \$89,000 a year in wages and benefits with only a high school degree.

Eugene and Springfield staff argue that a merger could save money, but the case appears weak. A key part of the argument is that Eugene and Springfield have more capacity than needed. But that only begs the question of why local taxpayers have been paying for this extra capacity for so many years.

For example, the report claims that Springfield's training and fire marshal managers can provide the same service to four times more people. "Springfield has the capacity to do both" cities.

Many of the savings also appear to be possible without a merger by combining job functions, and some appear to be already planned in budget cuts for next year.

The staff report also does not account for the many costs of a merger. A merger appears

likely to bring local rural and Springfield firefighters up to Eugene's high benefit and wage scales. Local regional firefighter unions like that idea, but taxpayers may not.

Fire chiefs and managers could also demand higher salaries and assistants for supervising the larger department. Staff also haven't accounted for the thousands of hours of staff and consultant time they've already spent studying the merger.

Even if staff claims are accurate, the savings of about \$600,000 a year amount to only 1 percent of local fire department spending.

"Rural calls cost more operationally than urban ones," the staff report states. But the merger fails to account for this key difference.

A major premise of Eugene's planning efforts for decades is that a compact city is cheaper to serve. Sprawl requires more firehouses, fire engines and ambulances for the same response times. The difference could mean that Eugene taxpayers end up paying far higher taxes to subsidize the expensive extension of emergency service for sprawl. Springfield Fire Chief Dennis Murphy says this issue can be resolved in contract language, but that remains to be seen.

Eugene appears to bring far more to the merger than other partners. Eugene taxpayers have paid millions for expensive training centers, fire offices, stations, computers and specialized equipment like tall ladder trucks and hazmat teams that Springfield lacks. Springfield, for example, leases rather than owns its fire trucks.

A merged special district could reduce oversight and accountability. It's hard for citizens to keep track of special districts, Eugene City Councilor Betty Taylor said. "They just sort of operate in the dark without the citizens knowing what's going on."

Many states such as New York, Texas, Kentucky and California have experienced fraud and waste in special districts which operate with little media or public oversight, according to press reports.

Can Eugene trust Springfield with a merger? Springfield recently joined developers in pushing a state bill ending joint urban growth boundary planning and forcing Eugene to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to study growth capacity. Springfield has also shown little interest in cooperating on local jail and human service needs.

Eugene and Springfield values could clash in a merger. Eugene's fire marshal runs the city's Toxics Right to Know Ordinance, and the city has emphasized increasing diversity in its fire department. Springfield touts its lack of regulations and is known nationally for an anti-gay measure in the 1990s and more recently for a councilor's allegedly racist comments against Hispanic immigrants.

Staff and Springfield councilors are rushing to tie the knot. But Eugene's elected officials appear bewildered. "You've gotten ahead of the policy makers, and we're kind of going whew, gee," Eugene Councilor Chris Pryor said.

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Hopenhagen?

Eugene contingency lobbies for action, human rights

Please help the world." A young girl woke up from a nightmare, screaming. She had been watching the news about climate horrors and then, in a bad dream, found herself in a parched land. The earth was cracking beneath her feet. Next she was in danger of being swept away by a hurricane.

The girl's father told her about this week's climate change negotiations in Copenhagen, Denmark. The event's website encouraged every viewer to "raise your voice." She grabbed her dad's video camera, turned it on herself, and made her simple statement: "Please help the world." Following her action, hundreds of other children sent the same message.

The girl's message was delivered on Monday to thousands of delegates here in Copenhagen who are working to forge a climate change agreement. The coming days will tell us whether the girl's plea will melt the hearts of the hardened delegates.

Some are calling the world summit on climate the most important international negotiation since the end of World War II. Progress until now has been spotty, however.

As the world wobbles toward some kind of agreement on taking action to limit climate change, Copenhagen hotels have filled up with 15,000 delegates, ranging from governmental delegates to buttoned-up environmental professionals to street activists. A rally scheduled for Saturday is expected to draw up to 60,000 participants outside the negotiating hall.

A strong contingent with Eugene connections is here, working the hallways to obtain improvements in the treaties and other agreements to limit climate change.

Alyssa Johl, a 2008 UO law graduate, heads a team of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) who are seeking to infuse human rights language into treaty. We two law professors are part of her delegation. In that role, we are helping draft language for NGOs to advocate to the government delegations.

We are also in Copenhagen wearing two other hats. We are working on language to submit to the negotiations in support of a "compliance mechanism"—an international body that would review whether countries actually do keep their promises. The U.S. has long resisted such a mechanism, but we hope that might change.

Finally, we are part of a worldwide rapid-response legal network called the Legal Response Initiative. In that role, our job is to answer urgent inquiries from NGOs on legal issues that come up. Available on call in person, or by cell phone, text or email, we focus on human rights issues and on advocating a compliance mechanism to ensure that countries actually keep their commitments.

Also working the NGO side of the street is Tim Ream, wearing the colors of Greenpeace International. He will complete his law degree at UO in May. Until two weeks ago, he was in a semester-

long "externship" in the Climate Change Secretariat in Bonn, Germany.

Another attorney with Eugene connections is in the official U.S. delegation, with the U.S. State Department. Rachel Kastenberg graduated from the UO School of Law's environmental law program in 2006. When we met her she was tight-lipped about specifics of the negotiations, as a government lawyer needs to be, but she nevertheless radiated hope.

Hope, indeed, is one of the moods here in Copenhagen.

At the opening meeting, Prime Minister of Denmark Lars Lokke Rasmussen told the delegates, "Hope is the starting point of all major efforts. The world is putting its hope in you, for a short while in the history of mankind," he said.

In a similar vein, the mayor of Copenhagen, Ritt Bjerregaard, said in her welcoming speech that for the next two weeks they had renamed the city "Hopenhagen."

The other mood here is frustration. By the end of the first day, participants from NGOs voted to give a "Fossil of the Day" award to the industrialized nations for their foot-dragging. On Tuesday, the award went to Ukraine, for claiming a "reduction" from 1990 levels that would actually mean a 75 percent increase over the country's current emissions.

About 250 environmentalists vote each day on who should receive this dishonor. Fossil of the Day awards recognize obstruction of progress at the climate talks.

Citizens from NGOs are called "observers," but their role can be crucial. "The involvement of civil society is of paramount importance," the Danish prime minister said in opening the conference. "The ultimate responsibility rests with the citizens of the world, who will ultimately bear the consequences if we fail to act."

In that plenary session, Dr. Rajendra Pachauri, chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, called it an "historically important meeting." He said that strong limits on greenhouse gas would cost only a 3 percent reduction in worldwide gross domestic product. The standard of living otherwise expected in 2020 would be postponed by "just a few months" as a result, he contended.

The meeting elected as its president Connie Hedegaard, the Danish minister for climate and energy. She called for the delegates to "open the door to the low-carbon age" and urged, "It is time to deliver!"

As is traditional, the president of the meeting called for approval of the ordinary rules. But the delegate from Papua, New Guinea, Kevin Conrad, its special envoy on climate change, rose to object. Attention was riveted upon him. Two years ago at a meeting in Bali he had dramatically said to an obstructionist U.S. delegation, "If for some reason you're not willing to lead, leave it to the rest of us; please, get out of the way."

In Copenhagen, many NGO delegates are wearing their ID tags on bright pink ribbons emblazoned with the words "LEAD OR GO HOME."



Rachel Kastenberg (left),
John Bonine and Svitlana
Kravchenko in Copenhagen
this week

that governments follow up on their Copenhagen commitments

The task at Copenhagen is enormous. By this fall the negotiating text had become a Christmas tree on which everyone wanted to hang their baubles. Nobody could agree even on where the baubles should go. The current text is nearly 175 pages long.

President Obama's recent promise of a 17 percent cut, based on legislation pending in Congress, is a step forward for the U.S. and other industrialized countries, as is the call on Tuesday by British Prime Minister Gordon Brown for the European Union to offer a reduction target for 2020 to 30 percent.

On Monday, Obama's Environmental Protection Agency said it would even start regulation of carbon emissions without waiting for Congress. On Tuesday evening, three high U.S. government officials briefed a room full of NGO delegates from the U.S. Although the briefing was off the record, it can be reported that the room erupted in applause when EPA's Administrator Lisa Jackson was announced and she got a standing ovation. The U.S. citizens in the room asked tough, well-informed questions, including several from youth delegates, who proved themselves to be worthy interlocutors at their young ages.

Of course, tens of thousands of people coming to Copenhagen has meant tons of greenhouse gas emissions. To offset the carbon impact, the Danish government is supporting reconstruction of some factories in Bangladesh. Instead of handing out souvenir briefcases as is traditional, the Danes also announced they were using the money to support the education of 11 students from around the world as "climate scholars." They will return to their countries to work on the problems that previous generations have created.

The UO has its own climate scholars in attendance. Bob Doppelt, Program Director of the Climate Leadership Initiative in UO's Institute for a Sustainable Environment, is here. Undergraduates Jeremy Blanchard and Sarah Harbert of Powershift West and the Environmental Studies Program arrived as part of a team of 15 students and youth from the Pacific Northwest lobbying for their future.

Some 110 heads of state and government have announced that they will come to Copenhagen next week to conclude the conference and sign a final document.

Let's hope they have something worth signing.

Bonine and Kravchenko are professors of law at the UO and members of the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (ELAW).



FICTION

ABLUTIONS:

Notes for a Novel

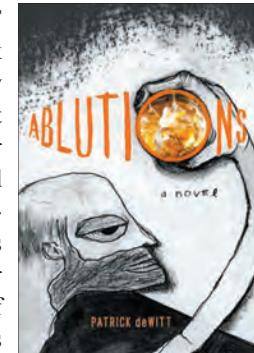
by Patrick deWitt
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$23.



Discuss the regulars," begins Patrick deWitt's slim debut. Many paragraphs in *Ablutions* start this way: "Discuss your wife," says the book's third section. In deWitt's second-person prose, a nameless bartender in a fading L.A. bar watches the downward spiral of his colleagues, his customers and himself, his eye sharp and unforgiving, even when he's drunk. Jameson Irish whiskey fuels a skid that eventually finds the bartender left by his wife and ostracized by the regulars whose flaws are all too apparent to the man behind the bar. DeWitt's characters are disasters, their lives ruins of drink, drugs, poor decisions and the occasional burst of sex or violence.

DeWitt's constant use of "you" is consuming and instructive: You look because he tells you to, not because you want to. Discuss the brevity, the terseness of deWitt's narrator's view of the world; discuss the way his whiskey-soaked, exhausted, not-yet-hopeless mind finds things to imagine or latch on to, from a car's magical powers to a lonesome horse to a bottle-rattling ghost. Discuss the way these things modestly and quietly sustain the bartender, their existence a crack in his life's darkness. Discuss the way everyone in this book is a mess, and often a deeply unpleasant mess, yet you still want everything to come out all right. Discuss compassion and ill regard, and the odd way deWitt places them hand in hand, marching grimly and surely through his spare pages.

—Molly Templeton



conjures up, but Watson barely glances at the story from an outside viewpoint, ignoring the sensationalist possibilities in favor of her main character's steady and unusual voice. Resourceful, young, bright, wide-eyed and imaginative, Asta picks her way carefully through a world she's never been prepared for, her viewpoint precise, her missteps inevitable as she begins to see the gap between the world her mother created and the world in which she and Orion have to live. Watson's story sends her young heroine from an extraordinary existence into the incredible, ordinary world, and her novel reaches unexpected heights in the process. —Molly Templeton

BOILERPLATE: History's Mechanical Marvel

by Paul Guinan and Anina Bennett
Abrams, \$24.95.

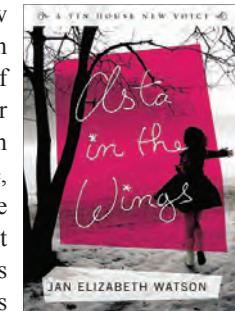


In this beautiful coffee table tome, Portland-based husband-and-wife team Paul Guinan and Anina Bennett have created a steampunk visual confection serving as both a charming sci-fi adventure and a gentle antiwar polemic. Imagine a straight-faced history of Gilded Age America, with one weird addition: a clanking, pacifist Tin Man-inspired robot.

Like his namesake text from the printing world, Boilerplate the android can be inserted into virtually any situation. The book excels when presenting (manipulated) historical photos and (make believe) movie posters and postcards. Here's Boilerplate at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair; there's Boilerplate searching for gold in the Klondike; this is Boilerplate ready to take on the Germans in WWI, and so on.

If it sounds strange — and it does — that's only because Guinan and Bennett are so completely, wonderfully, geekily absorbed in the alternate history they're piloting that the reader can't help but go along for the pneumatic, steam-powered ride. Along the way the book explores (and quietly critiques) a great deal of real American history ... or does it? In the chapter on Teddy Roosevelt and Boilerplate leading the charge in the Battle of San Juan Hill, for example, which episodes are real, and which imagined? The effect is as engaging as it is disorienting.

Boilerplate makes a great gift for adults who appreciate being immersed in a fantasy world just a shade removed from our own, or maybe even for a precocious, robot-crazed kid ready to graduate from the George Lucas empire. There are worse ways to learn about, and reflect on, our nation's past. —Aaron Ragan-Fore



ASTA IN THE WINGS

by Jan Elizabeth Watson.
Tin House Books, \$14.

Asta Hewitt is 7 years old. But Asta's narration, in Jan Elizabeth Watson's debut novel, is that of neither child nor adult. Her voice rests in both places: a girl learning new words and a grown woman considering the strangeness of her childhood. Asta, her brother Orion and their mother live in an isolated house in Maine, the windows papered over, the doors carefully locked against the sickness their mother says is outside. "There are times when we must take actions that are entirely of our own making," their overprotective, deluded mother — who's been reading *As You Like It* — says on the day she doesn't come home on time, setting in motion Asta and Orion's awkward exodus. The outside world, snowy and full of people, is confusing, mean and strange — not what Mother said, but not entirely unlike her stories, either.

Hanging around Asta is the small media circus the siblings' emergence into the world

BONESHAKER

by Cherie Priest.Tor, \$15.99.



Cherie Priest's latest novel is a zombie steampunk Western alternate history family adventure — one that tumbles forward with as much zombie-killing, machine-inventing, history-tweaking charm as such a book should contain. In

There's never enough time.

That's the annual refrain around here when Winter Reading rolls around, when books requested late in the game start piling up and threatening to topple off desks, couches, any relatively flat surfaces within reach of a reasonably comfortable chair. We organize them in piles in order of resistability: This I can wait on; this I must read now; this I should have read yesterday.

But eventually, we have to stop reading and start writing — though not before a few last discussions of the books that got away (for now). Jonathan Lethem's *Chronic City* is still in one to-read pile; Colum McCann's National Book Award-winning *Let the Great World Spin* partly listened to on Thanksgiving car rides; Booker Prize-winning *Wolf Hall*, by Hilary Mantel, still on hold at the library. We're impatiently awaiting the one fiction finalist for the Oregon Book Award we haven't yet reviewed, *The Russian Dreambook of Color and Flight* by Gina Ochsner (it's out in February).

Our Winter Reading list doesn't purport to be a best of the year list, but we do try to fill it with books we recommend, from nonfiction books about green chemistry to novels about imaginary robots to Washington treasure Sherman Alexie's latest, a collection of short stories and poems. We've highlighted a few Oregon books we haven't had a chance to finish yet, and we tried to be brief while discussing an engaging (and, in one case, infuriating) quartet of sequels to some of last year's best young adult fantasy.

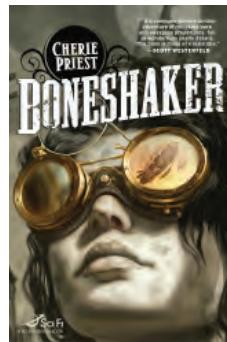
And we've got so much more to read. Happy winter, happy reading; may your toes be warm and your books be enthralling. —Molly Templeton

Unless otherwise noted, all books included in Winter Reading were published in 2009. If you're looking for Northwest authors, look for the small icons of Oregon and Washington next to the author's name.

WINTER READING

1863, inventor Leviticus Blue created a machine meant to drill for gold in the Klondike. But its maiden voyage tore through downtown Seattle, emptying bank vaults and opening a vein of "blight gas" that turned everyone who breathed it too long into a rotter, mindless and ravenous. Downtown was quickly walled off — so quickly that some folks were left behind.

Sixteen later, Blue's widow, Briar Wilkes, finds herself heading into the walled city after her son, Zeke, who wants to clear his father's name. Family history both helps and hinders Briar and Zeke once they're inside Seattle's 200-foot walls, where a ragtag population resides: a community of Chinamen, a handful of loners, a tough-as-nails barkeep and her regulars and a mysterious inventor are among those surviving in the dead city. Refreshingly, Priest's characters are always quite prepared for rotter attacks; no idiot behavior here, except by an old drunk or two. While a few of the elements of *Boneshaker*'s plot slip almost too neatly into place, Priest keeps things moving at a gripping and breakneck pace (in perfectly appropriate sepia-toned ink, no less). Her unusual mother-son protagonists are refreshing; her rewrite of Seattle history is clever; the creative ways the outsider populace find to exist in a deadly, neglected city are inventive and their face-offs with the rotters get downright scary. *Dreadnought*, a second book set in



what Priest calls the Clockwork Century, is due next year. It can't come soon enough. — *Molly Templeton*

BROOKLYN

by Colm Toibin. Scribner, \$25.

Toibin's genius work *The Master* and his affecting, gorgeous short story collection *Mothers and Sons* didn't prepare

me for this rather more conventional novel that ends with bleak disconnection. The tale of Eilis, a young Irish immigrant, *Brooklyn* seems at first to have a 19th-century setting — a familiar narrative of a Catholic girl propelled by her sister and a priest into leaving rural Ireland for the U.S. and employment in an Irish enclave in New York. That confusion in time becomes part of Toibin's underlying point: A young Irish woman living in the late 1950s still had few choices. Her days in Brooklyn were surveyed and controlled by everyone from her bosses to the boarding-house mother to the same priest who brought her to the States.

This oddly Foucauldian existence, in the midst of the teeming, busy city, doesn't give Eilis much freedom, not even when events conspire to take her back home again for a bit. She's a different person after a couple of years in the U.S., but her social class hasn't really changed. In a way, she hasn't really changed either: She still can't say, or do, what she wants; she can't form connections; she can't figure

out how to deal with hard choices. Toibin's lovely evocation of 1950s Brooklyn (oh, the Dodgers!) goes some way toward alleviating the grating nature of his narrator and her situation, but by the end, I only hoped that in a few years, Eilis would start reading Betty Friedan — and making nearly a century's leap in seizing her own destiny. — *Suzi Steffen*

THE DEATH OF BUNNY MUNRO

by Nick Cave. Faber & Faber, \$25.

Bunny Munro sells beauty products by appointment, but his real pursuit is sex, real or imagined. His grasp on reality is already tenuous, and following the suicide of his wife, Bunny must somehow care for his 9-year-old son, of whom he is only dimly aware most of the time.

After his wife's death, their house becomes a creepy monument to Bunny's guilt over his endless, disgusting exploitations. He senses his wife's presence in every corner, even through a heavy haze of drugs and alcohol. So he does the only thing he can — he and Bunny Junior hit the road, with his customer list in tow. We know from the title and from Nick Cave's music with the Birthday Party and the Bad Seeds that this won't end well.

While father and son drive into their future, we follow the pair to a painful confrontation with Bunny's father, Bunny Senior. The news media follow a knife-wielding murderer in red face paint and plastic devil horns as he accosts women

throughout northern England. Though he appears in only a few sentences, this man brings the hope of redemption to even the demented Bunny. And when Bunny finally meets his demise, we can't help but feel sympathetic. But the most tender moments of the book are the views of Bunny Junior — no matter how wretched his dad gets or how scary the other adults are, Bunny Junior's love remains pure. — *Vanessa Salvia*

THE EARTH HUMS IN B FLAT

by Mari Strachan. Canongate, \$14.

Welsh librarian Mari Strachan's debut novel is distinctly set in a tiny Welsh village in the 1950s. 12-year-old Gwenni Morgan is a curious, observant, honest girl on the cusp of becoming a young woman. Her best friend is growing up faster, but Gwenni still thinks boys are unpleasant and believes she can fly. It's during a nighttime flight that Gwenni sees a man floating in the baptism pool — an image that stays with her as things in her small town shift in strange ways. A local man disappears, and Gwenni wants to know what happened — not just where he went, but why people act as they do when he's gone. Why will no one help her investigate Ifan Evans' disappearance? Why does his fate so rattle her mother? Why is Mum so concerned with people thinking Gwenni is odd? When answers come, they tumble free a bit too quickly; the end of Strachan's novel is a tangle of family history come to light a bit more easily than is believable.

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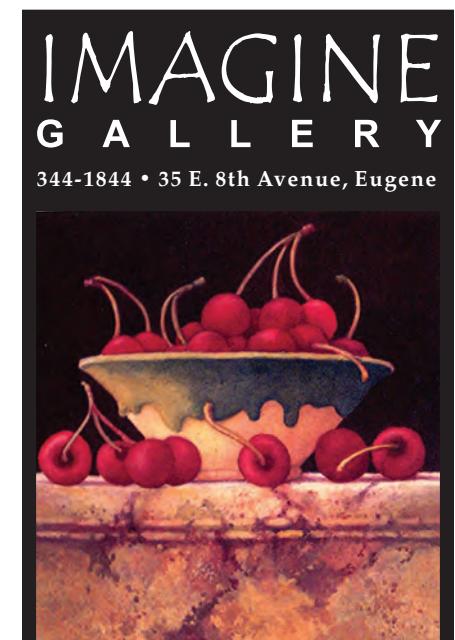
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SKIPPING THE SOPHOMORE SLUMP

by Suzi Steffen and Molly Templeton

Last year, Suzi's young adult books piece was full of beginnings — of the five books she included, three were the first books of a series, and one was set in a fantastic world to which the author was sure to return. 2009 is the year of the sequels: We've got three book twos and one companion novel, and most are well worth your time. The biggest letdown, alas, is the most popular of the lot. What's with the popularity of stupid-acting heroines lately?



Fire

by Kristin Cashore. Dial, \$17.99.
More a companion piece than a sequel (the action takes place before *Graceling*, actually), and I have my suspicions about the lead character's relationship to Katsa in *Graceling*), *Fire* features a tremendously talented, terrifying young woman whom the royal family would like to use to advance their political interests. There's a younger man, a prince, who seems antagonistic to Fire (yes, that's her name, due to her Extremely Magical Red Hair) but ... wait, which book am I recounting? *Fire*'s action feels far too similar to the plot of *Graceling* although a central character in the first book gets his (incredibly creepy) backstory here, and it's set in a different and inaccessible area of *Graceling*'s world. New touches — the brightly colored, manipulative "monsters" of Fire's world, who clearly have some parallels in real-world manipulative humans — and generally good writing, combined with political machinations and desperate chases and escapes, make *Fire* worth reading. — SS

Catching Fire

by Suzanne Collins. Scholastic Press, \$17.99.
Oh, the shame of this book. The shame of a good author (the *Gregor* series was quite good, with some standout books) wasting her talent to pump out something that doesn't measure up to the first book's potential. There's one way it matches *Hunger Games*: driving action with impossible cliffhangers, intense foreshadowing and ambiguous success against impossible odds. But oh lord, where did our strong Katniss go? Team Peeta, Team Gale: Excuse me? Who cares? Let's cheer for Team Katniss. Please bring her intelligence, cunning and strength back for the final book, Suzanne Collins. PLEASE. — SS

Sacred Scars

by Kathleen Duey. Atheneum, \$18.99.
Skin Hunger was a different kind of fantasy: The trappings were familiar — orphans, magic school, a romance, untrustworthy adults — but the writing and the relationships unusual. In book two, the stories of Hahp and Sadima come closer to overlapping; Hahp is still at the cruel magicians' academy he dreams of destroying, while Sadima, years earlier, escapes from its founder, but not without a terrible burden. Though some readers may find it has a touch of book two syndrome (there's more setting up than there is action), *Sacred Scars* is graceful and heavy with grief, love and the sometimes incredible cost of change. — MT

The Ask and the Answer

by Patrick Ness. Candlewick, \$18.99.
Ness' sequel to *The Knife of Never Letting Go* picks up with no time lost. Wounded and exhausted, Todd and Viola thought they'd found safety — but Haven has been taken over by the power-hungry, misogynistic mayor of Prentisstown. Todd is imprisoned and set to work for the mayor, while Viola, sent to recuperate, finds an uprising in an unlikely place. Both have their loyalties and their limits tested in this sequel, which is both horrifying and a bit heavy-handed — and ends on just as dramatic a cliffhanger as the first book did. — MT



WINTER READING

But what's revealed isn't easy at all.

Gwenni is full of possibility, prone to plain-speaking and learning, painfully, why adults tend to tuck away the truth in what they say. In Strachan's confident, lyrical novel, she begins to understand the shifty, hidden language of adulthood — a language which sometimes has to be translated into the simplest terms in order to tell the most painful stories. — Molly Templeton

FLYGIRL

by Sherri L. Smith. Putnam, \$16.99.

War disrupts nations — and sometimes presents opportunities. In this work of young adult fiction, Ida Mae Jones, a light-skinned 18-year-old African-American farm girl, gets the chance to fly. Ida Mae learned crop-dusting from her daddy, whose death still hurts, and she longs to get out of her small town. The Women's Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) might offer her that opportunity, but at a high cost. Only white women get to be WASPs.

Ida Mae's denial of her history, her self-policing, her nervousness about her hair and any hint of sun on her skin, cut to the bone, but worse is when her mother has to bring her some bad news. And there's more. Like this year's fantastic (and infuriating) nonfiction *Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream*, by Tanya Lee Stone, this work of fiction lays it out: Women pilots deal with a lot of shit from men who think they own the sky. *Flygirl* makes for a riveting tale that melds war history with one young woman's guts, spunk and strength, delivering plenty of info about the WASP program along the way. — Suzi Steffen



A GATE AT THE STAIRS

by Lorrie Moore. Knopf, \$25.95. A New York Times Top 10 Book of 2009.

Lorrie Moore is as identified with the short story as, say, the late Raymond Carver and the very much still alive Alice Munro. The short form, with its condensations and singular oomph, is the wry and observant Moore's forte, her natural haunt. It's been more than a decade, however, since *Birds of America*, the collection that many consider Moore's best yet; that book, which contained one indisputable masterpiece in "People Like That Are the Only People Here," found the author walking a tightrope between her innate cheekiness and the pathos of domestic drama. It was a stunning anthology, a comedy of manners for a smart but emotionally paralyzed generation of women flailing at love, marriage and parenthood.

So, after a decade of virtual silence save for some appearances in *The New Yorker*, what does Moore do? She releases *A Gate at the Stairs*, a sprawling, compelling

but wildly uneven novel. The book registers as a coming-of-age epic that centers on the jarring experiences of Tassie Keltjin, a lonely college student returned to her Midwest family farm. On something of a lark, she decides to take work as a nanny for an eccentric and mysterious couple who, it turns out, are in the process of adoption. What ensues are a series of often shaggy dog revelations and romantic misadventures that propel Tassie into a kind of Salingeresque crisis, which includes involvement with a boyfriend who may be a terrorist and discovery of the deep, dark secret behind her employers' adopting an African-American baby. Moore is a gimlet-eyed and hilariously funny satirist,



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WINTER READING

and portions of the book contain some of her best writing. "They were sometimes interesting," Tassie observes of children. "I admired their stamina and candor."

If the book remains for the most part engaging, it also hits more than a few snags; momentum goes slack when it's clearly meant to quicken, and Moore sometimes loses her grip on the empathetic identifications that tempered her rapier wit, and made her previous skewering of certain characters both humorous and eye opening. — *Rick Levin*

MY ABANDONMENT

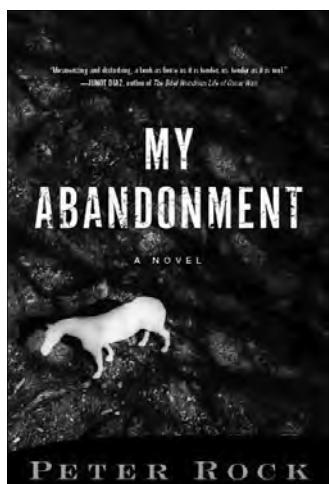
by Peter Rock.
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$22.



Father just wants to be in the wilderness. Thirteen-year old Caroline just wants to be with Father. They are professional wanderers, Caroline and Father, survivors of urban forests, abandoned hotels and other wastelands.

When Peter Rock's book opens, Caroline and Father live in a nature preserve outside of Portland, only venturing into the city once a week for groceries. When a passing jogger ruins their isolation, they're living in idyllic, post-modern organic bliss with a nearly complete library of encyclopedias, a home underground and a garden. With the jogger comes the rest of the world. Caroline and Father flee from wilderness to wilderness, from both real and imaginary pursuers.

My Abandonment, inspired and informed by a true story, is beautiful, sad and provoking. Seen through the eyes of the perceptive but still young and confused Caroline, the landscapes and the people are dizzying, frightening and ambiguous. This is a book that reminds me why I don't wander into dark, abandoned places in the middle of the night by myself. All the lost people of the world are waiting



there somewhere, and life is never as simple, good versus evil, as we'd like it to be. — *Katie Wilson*

A SHORT HISTORY OF WOMEN

by Kate Walbert. Scribner, \$24.
A New York Times Top 10 Book of 2009.

A Short History of Women is a short history of sacrifice. "Mum starved herself for suffrage, Grandmother claiming it was just like Mum to take a cause too far. Mum said she had no choice," begins Evelyn Charlotte Townsend, whose dying Mum, Dorothy Trevor Townsend, haunts the pages and the generations of Kate Walbert's novel-in-stories. The first Dorothy's sacrifice is clear, confrontational and mocked by friends and community. As the years go by, each successive generation sacrifices something else, often something more nebulous: a sense of possibility, a life unlived, a connection, a career, love. These choices are not overwrought, overworked or overthought, but simply part of life.

As Walbert traces through five generations of Dorothy Trevor Townsend's descendants, she sustains a tone beautifully described by *The New York Times Book Review*, where Leah Hager Cohen noted that "Her writing wears both its intelligence and its ideology lightly." In long, commanden, thoughtful sentences, Walbert circles around the internal lives of women during more than a century, setting their individual concerns against moments in history. The political is the personal, and the personal is fraught, complicated and uncertain for the Townsend women, even though they're upper middle class, comfortable, privileged (race and class appear briefly in the life of Dorothy Townsend Barrett, at a feminist "rap session" in the '70s during which her host is oblivious to the hypocrisy of shouting instructions at her black

individual concerns against moments in history. The political is the personal, and the personal is fraught, complicated and uncertain for the Townsend women, even though they're upper middle class, comfortable, privileged (race and class appear briefly in the life of Dorothy Townsend Barrett, at a feminist "rap session" in the '70s during which her host is oblivious to the hypocrisy of shouting instructions at her black

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WINTER READING

employee while seated white women talk about their lives).

Other lives are spun into these women's stories, threaded through Walbert's sentences and phrases like a carefully pattered rug. Often, those other lives are male: Father Fairfield, caught in a few instants in Evelyn's recounting; Georgie, a husband who tells his wife, the day after marrying her, that he prefers men; Stephen Pope, with whom Evelyn has an unusual partnership for decades. The men make their sacrifices and their contributions in the margins and between the lines — pushed to the side, but never pushed aside completely. Though her book is brief, Walbert's accomplishment seems monumental, the way she moves from the Victorian shunting aside of women — a man gives a speech that shares a title with her book, as if he could actually sum up the history of women, dismissive and aloof, in an hour or so — to the tiny details of 20-year-old Dora's present-day Facebook page, on which she is interested in men and women, and her heroes are almost all heroines, all the way back to her grandmother. "Color me Revolutionary," she says. — *Molly Templeton*

which are drawn cartoons that explain how Cait might further her music and her career. When one of her new songs references a phrase the tipsy Julian scrawled on one coaster — "Bleaker and Oblique" — they're both hooked. He does his best to be her muse, at a remove; she continues her upward spiral, a smart, talented woman whose insecurities manifest in strange ways. They trade hints, lures, suggestions, drawing closer together, their unlikely relationship formed on the unreliable basis of pop music, a subject about which Phillips is sometimes painfully apt. He gets inside the skin of all of us who have ever found a piece of music speaking directly, uncomfortably, to us; he appreciates that feeling and understands the absurdity of it at once. *The Song is You* is a fan's book and a music lover's book — and the story of a relationship so precarious it can only thrive at a remove, the truth of it caught in the lyrics of a song. — *Molly Templeton*

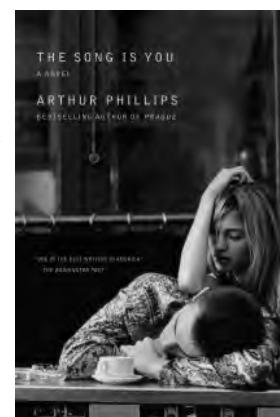
SHORT STORIES

THE COLLECTED STORIES OF LYDIA DAVIS

Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$30.

The short stories of Lydia Davis are psychic scabs that refuse to heal, though their festering is rarely a symptom of neglect. Quite the opposite.

Davis seems unable to stop herself from picking at the emotional wounds she worries with the supple forensics of her language — be the source of the pain romantic rejection or one character's pained ambivalence toward a father, mother, child, lover, cats, cockroaches. Yes, cockroaches. And yet, for all this literary revulsion, stories like "Story" and "Break It



Down" pulse with breathtaking beauty and are seeded throughout with a yearning humanity that occasionally blossoms from the murky mulch of neurotic obsession.

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WINTER READING

Her stories, finally amassed in their entirety in *The Collected Stories of Lydia Davis*, are less about self-examination than the sort of relentless self-questioning that can't be answered. In this literary universe, every door contains a window, and every window turns out to be a mirror. Problems refract infinitely, and Davis' wrung-out epiphanies arrive more through exhaustion than revelation.

At first glance — and sometimes that's all you get, the stories are so condensed — Davis appears to be mining a similar territory as Kafka or, more recently, Thomas Bernhard. The stories are dreamy, tangential, highly intellectualized affairs, almost completely devoid of dialogue or plot, and their detached meandering can smack of modernist elitism. But — and this is the benefit of finally having everything in one impressive brick — the cumulative effect of Davis' stories, stacked end to end, is one of gritty psychological realism. She captures the rhythms, cadences and spontaneous flip-flopping of peoples' lonely inner lives, and her emotional honesty, honed to a scalpel's edge by her artistry, performs a shocking autopsy on our deepest privacies. What results is unique in contemporary literature: a kind of quiet awe for the cyclical monstrosity of the mundane, the everyday torture of being trapped inside one's own skull. — *Rick Levin*

LIPS TOUCH: THREE TIMES OR

by Laini Taylor, illustrated by Jim Di Bartolo. Arthur A. Levine Books, \$17.99. Finalist, National Book Award for Young People's Literature.

Taylor's National Book Award finalist is a trio of stories of increasing creativity. In "Goblin Fruit," a perpetually mortified high school girl is tempted by a too-good-to-be-true young man; in "Spicy Little Curses Such as These," an old woman who regularly bargains with demons for the lives of children makes a specific deal with deadly and unexpected consequences. Both stories are solid, but Taylor's third and longest piece, "Hatchling," is by far the book's strongest.

In London, 13-year-old Esme's unusual life is turned even stranger when she hears wolves in the city and one of her eyes changes color. The past has come to claim her — a past full of shapeshifters and soulless, coldly curious creatures called the Druj. The whys and the hows of the Druj and their powers are explained through the stories of Esme's mother and of the Druj who tricked a queen into beginning to regain her soul. Taylor's mythology is elaborate, the cruel world of the Druj brutal and believable. Each story is prefaced with what amounts to a visual preview by Taylor's husband, illustrator Jim Di Bartolo, whose panels are black, white and tempting red. Taylor's language is lush and precise, and the images she conjures — whether of a modern girl frustrated by her old-fashioned family, or of a young woman

growing up silent in British India, or of the stone towers and kitten-eating beasts of the Druj — recall classic fairy tales while simultaneously suggesting new myths about love and heartbreak and growth. — *Molly Templeton*

THE THING AROUND YOUR NECK

by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Knopf, \$24.95.

Fiction in the U.S. often addresses the loneliness of immigrants, and Adichie (*Half of a Yellow Sun*) goes one better in this collection: The immigrants start out bereft, think their lives will improve in the States but end up even more isolated, lost across the gulf between Nigeria and the country where they've arrived. Not everyone in these stories is an immigrant, but the stories set in Nigeria (especially the fine, aching "Ghosts") also showcase women and men whose restless pain comes from lives unmoored by circumstances beyond their control.

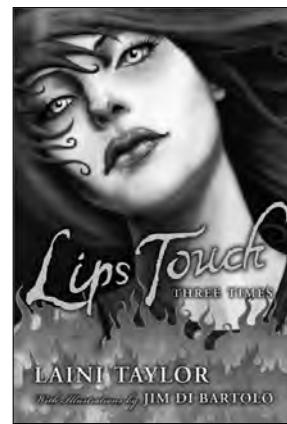
"On Monday of Last Week" mixes a familiar trope — the immigrant nanny of color who regards a U.S. white father's neurotic child care requests with amusement and impatience — with a deeply affecting portrait of a woman who yearns to be seen, to be recognized for who she is. Other stories recount women mourning children, sisters, cousins, their ways of life gone either into a political void or into the new world. Like other collections by writers living in two worlds, *The Thing Around Your Neck* opens windows into both cultures, making use of personal pain and

unending toil (for acceptance, for love, for resolution) to give outsiders a small way in. — *Suzi Steffen*

TOO MUCH HAPPINESS

by Alice Munro. Knopf, \$25.95. A New York Times Notable Book of 2009.

Alice Munro knows not to mess with a good thing. While other brilliant short story writers (*cough Lorrie Moore/Ethan Canin cough*) seem to think they must write novels to be considered real writers, Munro knows so much better. And I thank her for it. *The View from Castle Rock*, her book before *Too Much Happiness*, offered a tour de force collection of tales about Scots families (one in particular) immigrating to Canada. *Too Much Happiness* continues in the historical vein with the last, longest story, a near-novella about the last few days of 19th-century mathematician Sophia Kovalevsky. That's far from the strongest story in a book whose title provides a wry commentary on Munro's characters. As a matter of fact, the title story doesn't fit neatly with the rest of Munro's stories, but no matter; she loves to write about a full, complex life, and Kovalevsky certainly had that. Her other narrators come from different backgrounds. Some of them make foolish choices, let others control them, don't know how to say no; a few, notably the narrator in the stunningly good "Free Radicals," tell tales to ease their way, to save their lives.



TOUGH CHOICES

Graphic novel recommendations for 2009

In the three years I've been writing this annual graphic novel review roundup, I've never had such a difficult time choosing which books to cover. 2009 produced an amazing wealth of material, particularly in the realm of graphic narrative journalism and nonfiction.

A standout comic of 2009, ***The Photographer: Into War-Torn Afghanistan with Doctors Without Borders*** (First Second, \$29.95) is the true story of Didier Lefèvre, a Parisian photographer embedded in 1986 with an international aid convoy as it crosses on foot into Afghanistan to treat the medical ailments of mountain villagers. It's a dangerous adventure, one in which opium dealers and tribal gang lords paradoxically provide refuge from airborne Soviet patrols, corrupt rural cops and harsh winter conditions. Even as Lefèvre is disheartened by the complicated web of strange bedfellows, religious division and sparse mercies of Afghani politics, he simultaneously achieves a grudging respect for the cultural and geographic idiosyncrasies of the troubled countryside. Illustrated comic book panels by Emmanuel Guibert are intercut with "panels" composed of Lefèvre's stunning black and white photography, advancing the story in a wholly original way and even making a low-key statement about the nature of comics' graphic storytelling.



by the comics format. Sentiment that could easily devolve into a moribund, jingoistic chest-thumping is kept invigorated by stories of struggle for survival that are by turns saddening, thrilling and triumphant, but always engaging.

From a serious tale of world affairs to something that's anything but, Toronto cartoonist Kate Beaton's ***Never Learn Anything from History*** (TopatoCo, \$18) gives world history the "Fractured Fairytale" treatment. Think of Beaton as the brainy kid who sat in the front row of your high school history class, who also happens to be wicked funny. Beaton finds dry-witted humor and more than a little cuteness in a petulant Napoleon, a meeting of Garfield the U.S. president and Garfield the cat and even the 1981 attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II. These comics aren't for kids: Marie Antoinette advises one homely attendant she'd be better off as a hooker, and an arrow-to-the eye at the Battle of Hastings elicits some rough language. But adult history buffs will discover plenty of wiseass in-jokes in this charming collection.

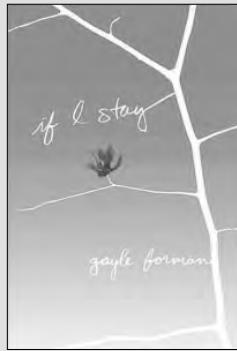
Asterios Polyp (Pantheon, \$29.95), a fiction magnum opus written and drawn by David Mazzucchelli, focuses on a jaded and reserved professor of architecture, a man who employs the geometric precision of his Grecian forebears in both his professional and personal lives. When Polyp's carefully-ordered existence is thrown awry by two chaotic events, a romantic breakup and an apartment fire, he simply drops out of his own life and hits the road, seeking a return to his core values of linear predictability. Real life, of course, ensues. Mazzucchelli's visual juxtaposition of straight-edged symmetry and messy curvature extends to lettering, character design, even the shapes of word balloons, offering a whip-smart treatise on the abilities of comics as a singular artistic medium. Don't let that scare you off, though: it's also a compelling story in the tradition of "One man's life lesson."

One of Hal Foster's pages of gorgeously meticulous *Prince Valiant* art served as an anchoring piece for the Jordan Schnitzer Museum's "Faster Than a Speeding Bullet" comic art exhibition, and it's no wonder: Foster's classic tales of knightly derring-do are a beloved part of the newspaper comics section. It's difficult to laud Foster too excessively; he was one of the undisputed masters of the craft. A new effort to reprint the *Valiant* epic in sequential order is off to a roaring start with ***Prince Valiant, Vol. 1: 1937-1938*** (Fantagraphics, \$29.99), a handsome oversize volume reprinting the first two years' worth of the Arthurian saga's Sunday strips. Despite its creation in the late 1930s (months before the debut of Superman, arguably the first superhero), the comic strip's otherworldly setting and taut characterization keep this an evergreen favorite for readers of all ages, an American epic born of a tale of European romance. — *Aaron Ragan-Fore*



A FEW MORE NEW BOOKS FROM OREGON AUTHORS

Alison Cadbury's lovely, multilayered memoir **Panigyri: A Celebration of Life in a Greek Island Village** (Plainview Press, 2008, \$18.95) takes decades of her experiences in the Greek village of Naousa on the island of Paros and distills them into a gorgeous, elegiac look at deep friendships, deep ritual and deep traditions. World issues ranging from overfishing to Chernobyl to changes in religion weave into the rich emotional tapestry of the village. Cadbury's writing, incandescent and dense at the same time, shows the power of careful attention to a rooted but changing culture and place.

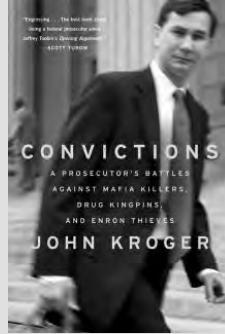


Gayle Forman's Willamette Valley and Portland-based **If I Stay** (Dutton, \$16.99) recounts the hours after a horrific car accident takes the narrator's family. Mia is a classical cellist, an oddity in her rather more hip (and sometimes hippie) family, and she lives the life of a smart, fairly middle-class Corvallis/Eugene teenager until the accident. The story's told from her point of view as she decides whether to live through the pain of losing her family or die hoping to see them all again. Family, school and friend memories mix with descriptions of the hospital and the accident. What will Mia decide?

Oregon attorney general John Kroger won the Oregon Book Award for creative nonfiction for **Convictions: A Prosecutor's Battles Against Mafia Killers, Drug Kingpins, and Enron Thieves** (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2008; \$15), which covers Kroger's time as an assistant U.S. attorney and, promisingly, takes a Joan Didion quote as its epigraph ("We tell ourselves stories in order to live"). The notoriously cranky *Kirkus Reviews* said of the book, "Kroger's assessment of the federal prosecutor's problematic, overly powerful role in the legal system is well-rendered and crisply delivered."

Rosanne Parry's well-received first novel, **Heart of a Shepherd** (Random House Books for Young Readers, \$15.99), tells the story of Brother, a reluctant rancher who has to help his grandparents run the family's eastern Oregon ranch when his father is sent to Iraq. "Brother's honest voice conveys an emotional terrain as thoughtfully developed as Parry's evocation of the Western landscape," said *The Horn Book* in a starred review.

National Public Radio listeners will recognize Naseem Rakha's name from her work as a journalist. **The Crying Tree** (Broadway, \$22.95), set in Oregon, is Rakha's debut as a novelist, and she takes on the death penalty as the central theme. Sister Helen Prejean, author of *Dead Man Walking*, calls the work "a journey you won't soon forget."



WINTER READING

Munro knows how to recount the joy of childhood friendships and the darkness hidden at the heart of any bond. In a sentence, she can deconstruct a lifetime of careful defense against the self; in an instant, a nice girl can become a killer. The world surprises her characters, and they surprise themselves, not generally in a happy way — and then they go on with their lives, trying to transcend the past and figure out how to struggle and survive. — *Suzi Steffen*

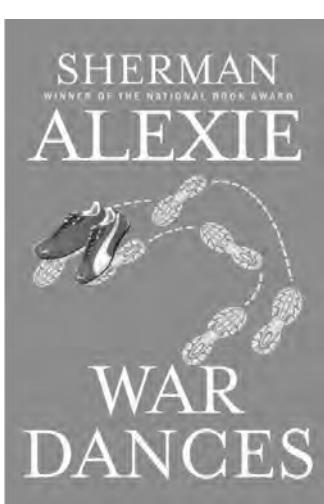
intern starts to learn about living and dying with dignity. This collection moves Alexie beyond his youth, and it's almost all the better for it. — *Suzi Steffen*

NONFICTION

THE BIG BURN: Teddy Roosevelt and the Fire that Saved America
by Timothy Egan. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$27.

Fire and the Forest Service: It turns out that long before Smokey Bear, these two things were intrinsically linked.

Timothy Egan takes what could be a deeply uninteresting topic — the formation of a government agency — and imbues it with drama as flames rage through millions of acres of newly created national forests in Idaho, Montana and Washington during the summer of 1910.



WAR DANCES

by Sherman Alexie. Grove Press, \$23.

After years of writing thinly fictionalized (and gloriously literary) versions of his childhood in various short story collections and novels, Alexie won the National Book Award a couple of years ago for his young adult book, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. That was a fine book, but *War Dances* is, occasionally, far better. Alexie's focus has shifted to adulthood, to the burdens of being a father, dealing with the loss of his own father and recognizing how time fails humans as we strive for connection. And Alexie mixes poetry with his short stories, poetry that walks the edges of irony and regret, sweet and bitter, postmodern and anticolonial while using the plainest language to tell complex tales.

Two weak stories, the unfunny "The Ballad of Paul Nonetheless" and the painfully bad "The Senator's Son" (it's OK, Mr. Alexie, if you never, ever try again to get in the head of a homophobic, privileged, straight white Republican boy), undermine the book, but they're placed well and redeemed by the poetry and by the two strongest stories: the incandescent title work with its surreal hospital corridors and "Salt," in which an 18-year-old newspaper

on three charismatic characters: Teddy Roosevelt, John Muir and Gifford Pinchot. From Roosevelt challenging Pinchot to wrestling and boxing matches to Pinchot's 20 year love affair with his dead fiancée and all three of the men's attempts to save the West from robber barons and railroad magnates, Egan details the turmoil of turn-of-the-century America's politics.

Intertwined with politics and the roaring flames of "the big burn," the book is also a suspenseful chronicle of the lives and deaths of the townspeople and homesteaders who lost their homes to the fires, and the immigrants, soldiers and rangers who fought the flames with not much more than shovels and desperation.

— *Camilla Mortensen*

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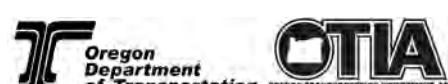
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WINTER READING

CHASING MOLECULES:

Poisonous Products, Human Health, and the Promise of Green Chemistry
by Elizabeth Grossman. Island Press, \$26.95.



Most of the world relies on chemistry to increase food production, clean our homes, make containers unbreakable and render children's pajamas inflammable. But until fairly recently, we had no idea how these chemicals were affecting our bodies and our environment. Many chemicals are known to interfere with physical and environmental health, yet most have never been fully tested for safety. Now, we not only have a much greater understanding of the impact of common household products, but we have the technology to begin designing alternatives.

Portland-based journalist Elizabeth Grossman has previously authored *High Tech Trash*, about hidden toxins in digital devices, and *Watershed*, an exposé of dams across America. Here, Grossman turns her investigative eye to the revolutionary science underway to bring the world safe, functional products that are free of hazardous materials.

Grossman examines the many synthetic chemicals people are exposed to everyday — chemicals used to make sippy cups, cookware, cosmetics, electronics and

sunscreen—and how they travel through air-and waterways, contaminating ecosystems around the globe. In balanced, storytelling language that is based on fact — but never

too technical for non-chemists — Grossman illuminates why green chemistry is so important. She interviews the founding fathers of green chemistry, including James Hutchison, a UO chemistry professor and recognized leader in the fields of green chemistry in academics and materials manufacturing.

The goal of green chemistry is products that are “benign by design,” products that are made from harmless ingredients *and* do no harm once in use. Grossman effectively reveals not only who is working to make this possible, but why it must become the new norm. — *Vanessa Salvia*

CITADEL OF THE SPIRIT: *A Merging of Past and Present Oregon Voices and Stories*

edited by Matt Love.

Nestucca Spit Press, \$30.



Any good love song, amid its many declarations, contains an accusation. *Citadel of the Spirit* is a collection of writings about Oregon by Oregonians, past and present. Reprinted newspaper notices (“Meet on the Summit: A Public Call to Form a Mountaineering Club by the Mazamas,” 1894), essays, stories,

constitutions, forgotten histories, sports articles: It’s all Oregon. It’s a love song, but editor Matt Love includes both the good news and the bad news.

The good: Oregon’s great!

The bad: The Klu Klux Klan was here.

Human beings are obsessed with place, the sense, purpose and understanding of it. *Citadel of the Spirit* is equal parts exuberance and questioning: What exactly is this place we call home?

While many of the pieces are along the lines of “Well, about a million years ago, when I was a kid,” pieces like “A Key to the Rains of Benton County” by Kathleen Dean Moore are genius. What is the proper classification for rain that “materializes out of thin air?” Bug spit. However, if you have rain that “falls through rain, the way fear falls through depression,” you’re looking at either “dirty weather” rain, a downpour or “Steelhead rain” depending on other indicators like this: Can you see the rain against the trees, or are the trees invisible thanks to all the rain?

Take it in small sips and in years. Skim it. Open it up at the middle. It’s a love song, so listen to it when you’re young and also when you’re old. It will mean different things. — *Katie Wilson*

THE FAR CORNER:

Northwestern Views on Land, Life, and Literature

by John Daniel. Counterpoint, \$25.



The Far Corner is an homage to the Pacific Northwest, to the interconnectedness of nature and our place in it, to the discovery of self within that

place and to the process of writing itself — how the linkage of ideas, of writing of self and place and history, breeds personal discovery just as surely as engaging with the environment and our natural senses does.

A collection of personal essays, some new and some written over the course of Daniel’s career, *The Far Corner* explores the scope and ecology of Oregon’s rivers, the history of the Blue and Klamath mountain ranges, our addiction to artificial light, the morality of clearcutting and the search for solitude, self and communion with place on a solitaire journey across Washington’s beaches. It delves into the history of Ken Kesey, whose acid-trip adventures inspired Daniel’s own foray into psychedelic drugs and whose writing greatly influenced him as a young man. And it speaks of the death of Daniel’s mother, the desperation and consequences of his family’s choice to put her through surgery at the end of her life. It speaks of “rootlessness” and “rootedness,” and advocates for both.

This is a book full of wandering, meandering ideas, stories and histories, tangents and contradictions, a testament to the complexity of the author’s personal experience and the complexity of the subjects he writes about. Though seemingly disparate in subject, the essays succeed as a whole in conveying the interconnectedness, the wholeness of nature and experience. *The Far Corner* is at once personal and engaging, with language that evokes power, imagery and personal reflection. — *Katie Kalk*

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Friday, February 5, 7:30PM: An evening with Carol Sklenicka, author of the celebrated new biography "Raymond Carver: A Writer's Life."

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WINTER READING

THE FOOD OF A YOUNGER LAND: *A Portrait of American Food*

Food — Before the National Highway System, Before Chain Restaurants, and Before Frozen Food, When the Nation's Food Was Seasonal

edited by Mark Kurlansky. Riverhead, \$27.95.

Not a single McDonald's burger appears in Mark Kurlansky's new food history. A portrait of American food, as the book's subtitle notes, before the national highway system, chain restaurants and frozen food altered the landscape forever, the work discusses local specialties and idiosyncratic dining habits across the nation in the years preceding WWII.

In the waning years of Eisenhower's WPA, the Federal Writers Project offered support to unemployed writers to document America's cherished food traditions. Originally titled *America Eats!*, the project was abandoned with the onset of the war, but not before writers — some as famous as Nelson Algren and Zora Neale Hurston — had submitted pieces on almost every state in the nation. Instead of refashioning the reports, Kurlansky, a historian known for his bestselling, sweeping histories of salt and codfish, edited the original collection, presenting the best essays in their rough, amusing, sometimes frightening glory. In this decision lies the real charm of his portrait.

Many of the pieces are simple: An essay on Maryland crabs, for example, offers a fine recipe for crab soup, and Texas unmasks a real chuck wagon dinner. We are helpfully provided a list of New York's soda jerk slang. Hurston offers an whimsical view of a mythical Alabama town called "Diddy-Wah-Diddy," where the roast chicken offers itself walking down Main Street. Her piece contrasts the racist depiction of African-Americans in other Southern pieces. Oregon, naturally, is well represented by an oral history of pioneer reunion dinners and a tirade on fancified mashed potatoes. Some things never change. — Jennifer Burns Levin

**GRINGA:
A Contradictory Girlhood**
by Melissa Hart. Seal Press, \$16.95.

Gringa, a coming-of-age memoir written by UO writing instructor Melissa Hart, begins when Hart's bohemian mother leaves her buttoned-up father for Patricia, the Latina school bus driver, taking Hart and her two younger siblings to the largely Hispanic beachside farming town of Oxnard.

Hart "went wild and barefoot" there before her father found them, declaring that it was "unnatural" for a child to be raised by two women. A judge agreed, and the children were returned to their workaholic father and his boring, predictable life in L.A., allowed to visit their mother only two weekends a month.

Hart seeks solace in her mother's VW bus, musicals, writing and her growing infatuation with Latino food and culture. (Each chapter of *Gringa* ends with a simple recipe.) But though Hart longed to

fit in, she was "the white girl;" her dark-skinned peers didn't have much patience for her, and the family of her first Mexican boyfriend disapproved of her because she didn't stay in the kitchen with the other women.

The ramifications of the custody agreement leave Hart trying to discover her identity in opposing worlds and worldviews. *Gringa* tells a touching story of a young girl caught between what she is and what she wants to be, what she wants and what she is "supposed" to want. Though Hart's relationship with her mother is irrevocably changed, she eventually does find a path back to her, along with the freedom to live and love in her own way. — Vanessa Salvia

**MANHOOD FOR AMATEURS:
The Pleasures and Regrets of a Husband, Father, and Son**

by Michael Chabon. Harper, \$25.99.

The novels of Michael Chabon, from *Wonder Boys* and *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay* to newer work such as *The Yiddish Policemen's Union*, are concerned in large part with certain broad themes: family connection and obligation; confinement and escape; men walking the line between macho stereotype and sensitive Renaissance man. Besides possessing perhaps the single best book title of 2009, this second collection of Chabon's nonfiction magazine essays covers much the same territory, in humorous and affecting fashion.

Chabon demonstrates his deftness at elevating even the most mundane real-life episodes — kids navigating their way home through a suburban neighborhood; the author's daughter hitting puberty; trying to locate a diaper bag that doesn't look effeminate — to yarns every bit as adventurous as anything fictional.

Most of the book's metaphors project an organic quality, as when Chabon compares the quirks of a nuclear family dynamic to nerdish *Doctor Who* fandom; but the odd passage here and there does merit eye-roll for its self-importance: "Childhood is a branch of cartography."

And while some of the essays end abruptly, just as they're building a head of steam, the book in total presents a grin-worthy meditation on what it means to be a man in America, incorporating sentiments to which members of that population will find themselves nodding along.

"Magic, at both ends of the spectrum," Chabon writes, "is what happens in the basements of houses." Sometimes we find it between the covers of books, as well. — Aaron Ragan-Fore

**NAMING NATURE:
The Clash Between Instinct and Science**

by Carol Kaesuk Yoon. W.W. Norton, \$27.95.

Taxonomy: The science, or perhaps the art, of scientific classification. Carl Linnaeus got things rolling in the 1700s, and Charles Darwin and others took up the cause. And of course though the dead white

WINTER READING

guys get the credit for “starting” the whole thing, people all over the world have been creating folk taxonomies for everything around them for centuries before and after Linnaeus.

Carol Kaesuk Yoon, a science writer for *The New York Times*, takes taxonomy on and makes it fascinating for the non-scientist. From the early writings of Linneaus to contemporary DNA discoveries, Yoon explores not just how humans have tried to make order out the world (and sometimes failed) but why.

Yoon writes not only of taxonomies; she also ventures into philosophical discussions of the impact of how we name and calls for a return to an interest in all things taxonomic in order to understand not only nature, but human nature. — Camilla Mortensen

NOTES FROM NO MAN'S LAND: American Essays

by Eula Biss. Graywolf Press, \$15.

Eula Biss takes her commas and verbs and writes a book to make your mother cry. These are essays about America and Americans, cities and cityscapes, race and racism. Stop. As one reviewer says, quoted on the back of the book, “I know what you’re thinking.” You think you’ve heard this story. You hate this story.

What Biss is going to reveal is the complexity of The Story because there is no one, single story. There are always two (sides to a coin) or five or a million. A history of the telephone in the United States is also a history of violence, of

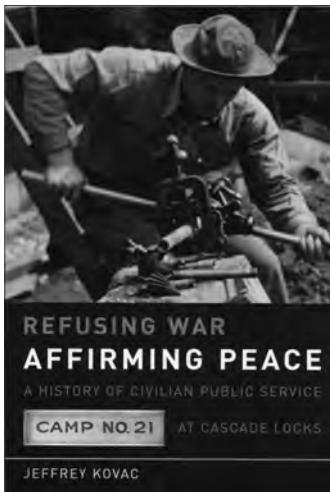
lynching and its brutality. There are many uses for a telephone pole. The first ones were burned. Others have become trees again. A story about Biss’ time as a reporter is a story about the news we’re never told. Iowa becomes America and America becomes the world and we have all forgotten the world.

Because you are reading many stories while you think you are reading one, the essays fly by. It is a book to make you angry, to make you sad, to make you think. Mostly this book is necessary and beautiful — nouns go heel-toe, and sentences dance a jig. It should be read, for the history you know and the history you have been told differently. It should also be re-read, argued over and stained with all your friends’ fingerprints. — Katie Wilson

REFUSING WAR, AFFIRMING PEACE: A History of Civilian Public Service at Cascade Locks

by Jeffrey Kovac. OSU Press, \$21.95.

The history of a conscientious objector camp, this OSU Press book starts with a couple of strikes: Kovac isn’t an historian (he’s a chemistry professor), and his father-in-law is one of the more important members of the camp. That leads to a few problems. The author assumes more knowledge on



the part of readers about the various war resistant Christian groups than anyone outside of those groups could understand, and the narrative lacks a sense of character. What reasons do the men’s churches, and then men themselves, give for their desire not to participate either directly in the war or in any war effort? How did the socialist objectors get along with, for instance, the Mennonite objectors?

Who knows?

Kovac never quite gets inside the heads of the men at Cascade Locks (Civilian Public Service camp #21), though he does recount some of their poems, plays, education efforts and experiences through old newsletters, letters and memos. The men of CPS #21 stood up to Executive Order 9066 and roused support from other camps to resist the removal of Japanese American COs from the work camps to places like Tule Lake or Manzanar, so it was somewhat unique. This book appears to be a first gesture in a mostly untold story of those who didn’t see WWII as “a good war.” Perhaps historians or literary nonfiction writers can now take the reins and bring to more vibrant life the rich inner thinking of men who resisted the call to serve the gods of war. — Suzi Steffen

SACRED MOUNTAIN: EVEREST
by Christine Taylor-Butler. Lee & Low Books, \$19.95.

Some in the EW office have been rolling their eyes at the cover of this book, but it’s a fantastic piece of nonfiction for any kid interested in Mount Everest or any adult who’s not an expert already. Taylor-Butler writes about mountaineering, Tenzing Norgay and Sir Edmund Hillary’s success story and women on the summit, but she also focuses on the lives of the Sherpas who live near the mountain and the other mountains near it (one of which is so sacred that no human is allowed on it). Early British climbers treated the Sherpas quite badly; further press reports ignored them; but, Taylor-Butler shows, the people of the area were able to reclaim the mountain they call Chomolungma.

Her respect for the people who live in Nepal (and Tibet) combines with information about their lives and religious practices. A revealing timeline shows that people have grown ever more obsessive and perhaps foolhardy about the climb — 1988: “First person to paraglide from the summit!” 2001: “First person to descend from the summit on a snowboard!” — but Taylor-Butler writes about the risks as well, not to mention the trash left behind by careless climbers and the changes in the mountain climate wrought by massive tourism and climate change. Still, the book concludes with a modicum of hope. If you know a girl or boy remotely interested in glaciers, mountaineering, Tibet, Nepal or the Sherpa people, *Sacred Mountain* would be a most appropriate gift. — Suzi Steffen

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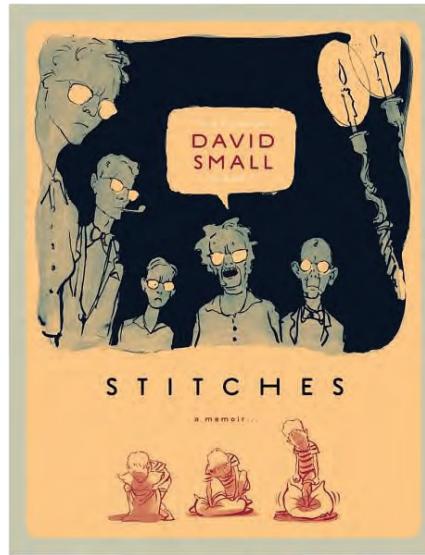
STITCHES: A Memoir

by David Small. W.W. Norton, \$24.95. Finalist, National Book Award for Young People's Literature.

David Small's graphic novel memoir caused a bit of a stir when it was nominated for the National Book Award in the Young People's Literature category despite not being published as a young adult book. What the NBA clearly needs is a graphic novel category, and books like *Stitches* make the case for this far better than any review could. Small — a longtime children's book illustrator with a Caldecott Medal and Honor under his belt — here explores his own childhood, which was so unhappy that young David's particular means of expressing himself was not, as he

tells it, through art, but through frequent illness, which his doctor father treated with extensive X-rays. When he was 14, David went into the hospital to have what he was told was a cyst on his neck removed. When he woke up, he was missing one of his vocal cords. It was years before he found out what really happened.

Small's book combs through his family's past, tracing lines of unhappiness that seem to come to swollen points in his unhappy parents, their faces often unreadable behind glasses drawn as blank white lenses. His black-and-white illustrations are beautiful and bleak, reality framed in outlined panels, dreams and nightmare swirling across the page, unbound. *Stitches* is the product of a child's pain and an adult's understanding



of the world; Small is clear-eyed and sympathetic, intuitive and angry, and his images are so innate, so of a piece with his carefully parsed words, that they seem to seep off the page and into the reader's head. States of mind are caught in fervent lines; threat and sadness and comfort settle in a dark shadow across a parent's face. Small's story is full of pain, but his book is full of freedom, an outstanding example of the power of art and expression to evoke change. —Molly Templeton

TALL MAN: The Death of

Doomadgee

by Chloe Hooper. Scribner, \$24.

In 2004, novelist Chloe Hooper (*A Child's Book of True Crime*) was asked by a

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WINTER READING

lawyer to write about the case of Cameron Doomadgee. The lawyer, Andrew Boe, was working pro bono on the case: Forty minutes after being arrested, Doomadgee, an Aboriginal man, was dead in his cell. His injuries included broken ribs and a liver nearly split in two. The cops said he tripped over a step.

Hooper's wrenching, eloquent book is the result of three years of research, interviews and travel. It's the story of one incident, one man's death and another man's trial, but it is also a bracing look at the institutional racism that is the legacy of white Australia's treatment of the country's native people. Hooper traces clear lines from the past treatment of Aborigines to the current existence of the people of Palm Island, whose lives are too often soaked in alcohol and marked by violence.

In measured, thoughtful prose, she also tries to understand Chris Hurley, the white police officer charged in Doomadgee's death, who spent much of his career working in poor Aboriginal communities. Hurley refused to talk to Hooper, who spends a good deal of time with the Doomadgee family. Some will see this as bias, but the stories of men like Cameron Doomadgee are too rarely heard, and Hooper, though she clearly sympathizes with Doomadgee's family, never paints Hurley as a monster, or as unquestionably guilty. Her compassion seems near boundless. *Tall Man* — the title of which references both an Aborigine myth and Hurley's considerable height — is gripping, outstanding and infuriating, a terrible story told incredibly well. — *Suzi Steffen*

(some willing; some at threat of their own lives); high-ranking officers on both sides; other U.S. soldiers; Filipino soldiers and the Filipino civilians who witnessed the ragtag, underfed, dehydrated, beaten men as they walked their long road to yet more deprivation, yet less food, yet more hard work. Steele ended the war as a POW working in a slave-labor coal mine in Japan, and the story of the prisoners' transport to the Axis country is just as much a tale of woe as the horrors (for both sides) of fighting in an unforgiving jungle. The narrative drives right up to the final chapters, which flash by too quickly and don't flesh out the repercussions of Steele's or other soldiers' captivity.

Several valuable if depressing chapters concern the desire for vigilante justice that drove war crimes trials of some Japanese generals after surrender. General Douglas MacArthur certainly doesn't escape this book unscathed. What's driven home through demonstration is that a country that ignores the Geneva Protocols does so at its peril. A deeply moving, relentlessly compelling story of poor preparation, poor execution and poor planning (on the U.S. side) that led to disaster for thousands of men and women, *Tears in the Darkness* stands as the finest book I read in 2009. — *Suzi Steffen*

POETRY

BANG DITTO

by Amber Tamblyn. Manic D Press, \$16.

Amber Tamblyn says her book is about discovery, exploration, charting the uncharted and correcting the old maps. She writes about her family ("My mother is the news anchor / never allowing me to escape her natural disaster"), about her life as an actress ("my face runs its own nonprofit organization / to help my cheeks raise awareness / and fight laugh lines"), about studying for parts, about checking out Scientology ("I found myself entering the shack where actors get fixed: the Scientology Center of Toronto") and about being her own particular version of female, as she sees herself and how others see her.

Tamblyn does not write easy poems. The book runs to 128 pages, each page filled with text: a lot of poem. Her metaphors are at once obvious and entwined. You can smell the deeply personal on them, and sometimes she lets you in. Other times, she releases such a fog of words and juxtapositions you know she has to be out there laughing while you stumble around trying to make sense of it all.

Entertaining, illuminating, and (oh gosh) inspiring, the poems are worth a few stumbles. — *Katie Wilson*



TEARS IN THE DARKNESS:

The Story of the Bataan Death March
by Michael & Elizabeth M. Norman. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$30.

As fine an example of literary journalism and historical reconstruction as a bestseller like *Devil in the White City*, the Normans' *Tears in the Darkness* vividly recreates one of the many horror stories of the War in the Pacific. Despite my grandfather's service as a medic in the Philippines, I never knew much more than the name of the Bataan Death March. But the Normans, using one soldier from Montana as their guide, recreate it all — starting with the battle that led to the march, in which at least 20,000 of the 75,000 Filipino and U.S. soldiers died. One who survived was Ben Steele, and his memories and sketches give narrative shape to the book.

The Normans' impeccable research, however, also leads them to tell the story from many points of view: Japanese soldiers, including several who took part in an infamous bayonet massacre

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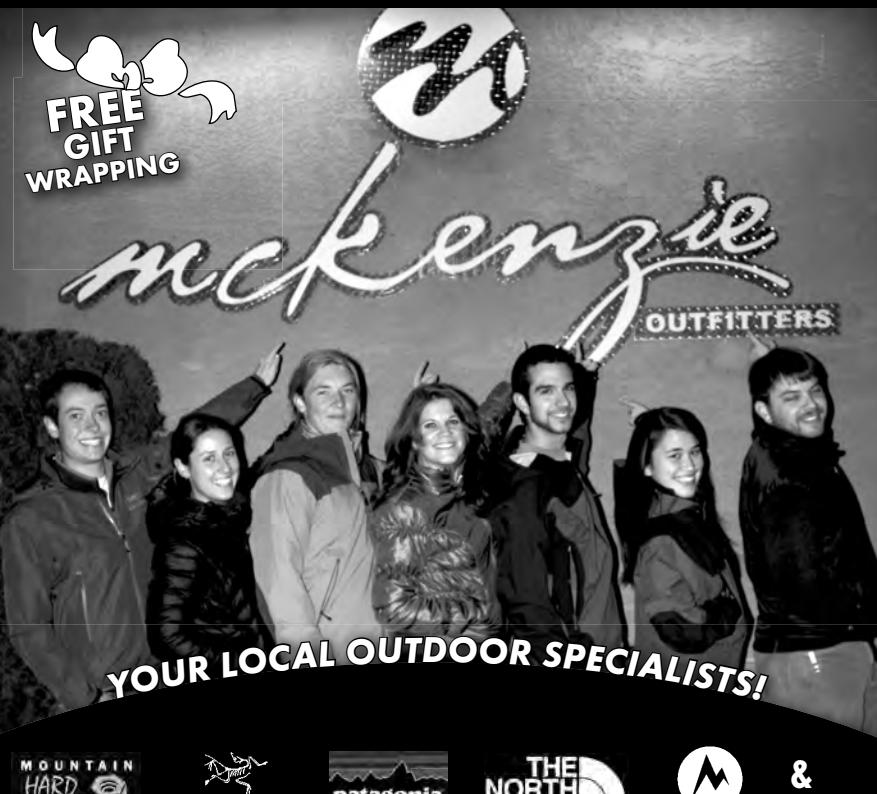
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THURSDAY

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BENEFITS A Very Victorian Holiday, festive party, food, wine, music, silent auction, support historic home, 5-7pm, The Sheldon-McMurphy-Johnson House, 303 Willamette St. \$25. The Great Taste, tasting of wine, cheese, chocolate & more, benefits Relief Nursery, 5:30-8:30pm, Valley River Inn, 1000 Valley River Way. \$35, \$80 VIP tasting room.

Southern Oregon Casting for Recovery Screening & Fundraiser: *Rise*, fly-fishing adventure flick, breast cancer benefit, 5:30 & 7pm, David Minor Theater, 180 E. 5th St., 485-7472, tickets at Caddis Fly Shop, 168 W. 6th. \$10.

Visions of the Universe: "Chocolate & Stars" w/NASA astronomer Dana Backman, fundraiser for Friends of the Library, 7:30pm, Cottage Grove Public Library, 700 E. Gibbs, Cottage Grove. \$5 sug. don.

DANCE Highlights from *The Nutcracker Suite* ballet, performed by Eugene Youth Ballet in full costume, all ages, 4pm, Springfield Library, 225 Fifth St., Spfd. FREE.

FILM DVD Premiere Party: *Changing Brains: Effects of Experience on Human Brain Development*, info on child development, hands-on educational activities, music w/Black Ruby, all ages, 6pm, Cozmic Pizza, www.changingbrains.org. FREE.

Eugene Media Action Meeting, Dessert Potluck & Screening: *Independent Media in a Time of War & Let's Put the Public Back Into Public Broadcasting*, discussion to follow, 7pm, Growers Market, 454 Willamette St., www.progressivevoices.org. FREE.

FOOD/DRINK Snowflakes Ball, holiday dinner party, music, 6:30-10pm, Holiday Inn Eugene, 919 Kruse Way, Spfd. \$35.

Healthy Desserts for the Holidays, 7pm, Tamarack Wellness Center, 3575 Donald St. \$25 adv., \$29 door.

Xocai Healthy Chocolate Party & Opportunity Meeting, info on healthy sweets, 7-8pm, Café Yumm, 730 E. Broadway, 345-1935. FREE.

GATHERINGS MLK Jr. Education Center Community Holiday Meal, culinary students serve up turkey, ham & traditional holiday side dishes, 11am-2pm, Department of Youth Services, 2727 Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy, 682-4775. FREE.

Helios Resource Network Holiday Party, food, drink, door prizes, 5-9pm, Knights of Pythias, 420 W. 12th, www.heliosnetwork.org. FREE.

Walnut Station Mixed Use Center Public Open House, final draft recommendations, provide feedback, 5:30-7:30pm, Downtown Library, 682-5485. FREE.

Planned Parenthood Sexy Cocktails & Coffee, mixer, make your own safe-sex gift bag, 5:30-7pm, Perugino, 767 Willamette St., ppsoregon.org. Don.

Singles Mixer w/Marilyn the Matchmaker, ages 21-90, 5:30-7pm, Gary's Coffee House, 525 High St. FREE.

WHAT'S

happening



As any parent subjected to the endless replaying of Disney DVDs is well aware, *The Little Mermaid* exerts a particularly strong hold on the adolescent imagination. For that reason alone, this weekend's **Chambers Family Foundation Yuletide Celebration** at the Hult won't be a hard sell – this year's host is none other than **Jodi Benson, the voice of Ariel**. Benson's appearance will get your kids through the door, but rest assured the show is no one-trick mermaid. The celebration features an 80-piece orchestra playing holiday favorites, the inaugural appearance of Eugene Symphony guest conductor David MacKenzie and a performance by **the tap-dancing Santas**. If that doesn't put the go-go-go in your ho-ho-ho, nothing will. \$15-\$48; www.eugeneholidaytickets.com, 682-5000.

Human Rights Start at Home: Celebration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 6:30-8:30pm, Cesar Chavez Elementary, 1510 W. 14th Ave. FREE.

Hearing Loss Association Potluck & Holiday Gift Exchange, bring food & \$5-or-less gift to exchange, 7-9pm, Hilyard Community Center, 2580 Hilyard, 731-8135.

Confluence, Disneyland-esque extravaganza featuring artwork, projects, performances & culinary arts by students, feat. *Life in the Trenches*, student-produced play re-enacting WWI, 7-9pm, Wildish Community Theater, 615 Main St., Spfd., www.athreee.org. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Preschool Storytime, ages 3-6, picture books, fingerplays, rhyming songs, 11am, Sheldon Library, 1566 Coburg Rd., 682-8316. FREE.

LECTURES Managing Digital Photos, internet experience required, 6-8pm, Downtown Library, pre-reg. at 682-5450. FREE.

Winter Steelhead Fishing w/ Shane Groshong, 6:30pm, Mazama Sporting Goods, Valley River Center. FREE.

LITERARY ARTS Live-Lit West, UO Masters students read from works-in-progress, 7pm, Tsunami Books, 2586 Willamette St. FREE.

MUSIC Edward Sharpe & The Magnetic Zeros, Fool's Gold, Local Natives, rock, 8pm, WOW Hall. \$10 adv., \$12 door.

Physical Hearts, Now Trio, Sea Bell, 9pm, Sam Bond's. \$5.

SPIRITUAL Kids' Chanukah Event, build your own menorah, pre-school age, 11am; school age, 3:30pm, Ahavas Torah, 2935 Onyx St., RSVP to 844-1430, www.minyan.us \$2.

THEATER Irving Berlin's *White Christmas: The Musical*, 7:30pm today, tomorrow & Saturday. Contact Jam, 6:30-8pm, Studio B, 189 W. 8th. \$5-\$10.

2:30pm Sunday; continues Dec. 10-13, The Shedd, 868 High St., www.theshedd.org, 434-7000. \$20-\$42.

Marley & Scrooge, musical version of Dickens holiday classic, 8pm today, tomorrow & Saturday; 2:30pm Sunday; continues through Dec. 20, Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Dr., Cottage Grove, www.cottageatre.org, 942-8001. \$19, \$17 stu. & sen.

The Dresser, 8pm today, tomorrow & Saturday; 2pm Sunday, The Very Little Theatre, 2350 Hilyard St., 344-7751. \$12.

FARMERS' MARKET Veneta Downtown Farmers' Market, 3-6pm, Territorial & W. Broadway. FREE.

FILM Friday Film Night: Flaming Lips 4-disc *Zaireeka* played on multiple boom boxes to video footage, 7pm, New Zone Gallery, 164 W. Broadway, 683-0759. FREE.

DIVA Film Forum presents Portland filmmaker/cinematic poet Chel White, 7pm, DIVA, 110 W. Broadway, www.divacenter.org \$6.

FOOD/DRINK Friday Night Wine Down, music w/Paul Biondi, all ages, 6-8pm, A Taste Gourmet, 270 W. 6th Ave., Junction City. FREE.

GATHERINGS League of Women Voters of Lane County Small Group Meetings, topic: program planning, 9:30am, Cascade Manor, 65 W. 30th.

Fifth St. Public Market Holiday Artisans Bazaar, 10am-7pm today & tomorrow; 11am-5pm Sunday; continues through Dec. 20, held in former Destinations space, 5th Street Public Market, www.5stmarket.com.

City Club of Eugene Friday Forum: "Partnering to Improve the Health Care of Oregonians" w/Joe Robertson, public welcome, 11:50am-1:30pm, Eugene Hilton, 66 E. 6th Ave., www.cityclubofeugene.org. FREE.

Rosie the Riveters Meeting, noon, Adult Activity Center, 315 W. C St., Spfd, 747-9542.

Beyond War Open House, tea, sweets, celebrate new office, 12:30-4pm, 30 E. Broadway, www.beyondwar.ning.com. FREE.

English Madrigal Dinner w/ Eugene Vocal Arts Ensemble, Renaissance feast, music, 6pm today & tomorrow, St. Paul's Parish Hall, 1201 Satre St. \$85, \$680 for table of eight.

Winter Ball, semi-formal dance for Springfield-area middle school students, student ID required, 7-10pm, Willamalane Teen Center, 1276 G St., Spfd, 736-4544. \$10.

KIDS/FAMILIES Baby Storytime, ages 0-1, books, fingerplays, rhyming songs for infants, 10:15am & 11:15am, Downtown Library, 682-8316. FREE.

Preschool Storytime, ages 3-6, picture books, fingerplays, rhyming songs, 10:15am, Bethel Library, 1990 Echo Hollow Rd., 682-5766. FREE.

LECTURES Pacifica Forum: "National Socialist Movement: An insider's view of America's radical right" w/Jimmy Marr, 3pm, EMU Walnut Room, UO, 344-0483. FREE.

In the Company of Crows & Ravens w/author Jerry Marzluft, 7:30pm, Willamette Hall, UO. FREE.

LGBT Interweave & PFLAG Potluck & Screening: *Prayers for Bobby*, Lifetime TV movie, discussion to follow, 6pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 477 E. 40th Ave. FREE.

MUSIC Jackie Jae & Jason Cowsill, variety, 5pm, WineStyles, 2846 Willamette St. FREE.

David Nevue: A Winter Evening at the Piano, 8pm, Wildish Theater, 630 Main St., Spfd.

Bad Mitten Orchestra & Ty Connor's "Sit-Down Tragedy" Act, cabaret, theater, 8:30pm, Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette St., 345-8986, 21+ \$8.

Queen Omega w/David Kirton, I-Chele & the Circle of Light, reggae, 9:30pm, WOW Hall. \$15 adv., \$20 door.

11
FRIDAY

Sunrise 7:38am; Sunset 4:34pm

Av High 46; Av Low 34

BENEFITS Peace Through Music Party & Soup Kitchen Benefit, screening of documentary *Playing for Change: Peace Through Music*, Soup Kitchen, Inc. soup meal at 6pm; screening, 7pm, Center for Spiritual Living, 390 Vernal, 485-0035. FREE, \$5 for bowl of soup.

Kudana's Annual Benefit for Africa, feat. MC Marv Ellis & the Platform, Won Ton Nara Drum & Dance Ensemble, Kudana Marimba, 7pm, Cozmic Pizza. \$8-20 sug. don., \$5 stu.

Holiday Ice Show, skaters perform *The Jungle Book*, benefit for Toys for Tots, 7:30 today; 1pm & 7pm tomorrow, Lane Events Center-Ice, 796 W. 13th Ave. Bring a new, unwrapped toy.

DANCE Eugene Youth Ballet performs *The Nutcracker* & reader's theater version of Truman Capote's "A Christmas Memory," 5:30pm & 7:30pm, Broadway Events Center, 5th & Broadway, Veneta. \$10, \$5 kids 12 & under.

Contact Jam, 6:30-8pm, Studio B, 189 W. 8th. \$5-\$10.



Dinner theater, when done properly, is a wonderful sensory experience, combining as it does the gustatory joy of fine dining with the engrossing pleasure of costumed theatricals. In other words, dinner theater is a glorified version of eating with the TV on, only more dignified and costly. **Eugene Vocal Ensemble's English Madrigal Dinner** at St Paul's Church this Saturday and Sunday will recreate the Royal Court feasts of Renaissance England, offering its patrons a deep immersion into the plush pageantry of a fabled past, complete with skits, music and a four-course menu that features such Anglo-rific vittles as whiskey-soaked prime rib, wild mushroom pie and flaming plum pudding. \$85; 687-6865.

calendar



The relational dance performance "Not You, Nor I, But Both" takes place Saturday at Fenario Gallery

The Dimes CD Release w/ Cabinessence & Justin King, 9:30pm, Sam Bond's. \$5.

SOCIAL DANCE Drop-in Dance: Hustle, 8:30pm, Staver Dance Sport, 41 E. 6th Ave. \$10. Salsa Dance w/DJ Pachucos, 9:30pm, 94 W. Broadway, 21+ \$5.

SPIRITUAL Channeling Gathering w/Ker Cleary & Julia Trippie, bask in the loving energy, 7:30-10pm, Neila Campbell Healing Arts Center, 466 W. 17th, 349-0595. Don.

THEATER Radio Redux presents *Paradise: A Cowboy Christmas Carol*, Dickens' tale transported to Old West, 7:30pm today & tomorrow; 2pm Sunday, Pleasant Hill Community Theatre, 35575-1/2 Zephyr Way, Pleasant Hill, 988-1195. \$15.

Much Ado About Nothing, 7:30pm today & tomorrow, Churchill Theatre, 1850 Bailey Hill Rd., 790-5252. \$2.

Magic Time, Eugene Shakespeare Ensemble, 8pm today & tomorrow, Sheldon Theatre, 2455 Willakenzie Rd., 543-5302. \$10. Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*, 8pm today & tomorrow; continues through Dec. 19, Actors Cabaret, 996 Willamette St., www.actorscabaret.org. \$16-\$35.95.

Irving Berlin's *White Christmas: The Musical* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 10.

Marley & Scrooge continues. See Thursday, Dec. 10.

The Dresser continues. See Thursday, Dec. 10.

12

SATURDAY

Sunrise 7:39am; Sunset 4:34pm
Av High 46; Av Low 33

ARTS/VISUAL Art Talk: sculptor Andries Fourie, noon; Sculpture Workshop w/Andries Fourie, materials provided, 1:30pm, DIVA, 110 W. Broadway, www.divacenter.org, pre-reg. at 344-3482. FREE.

ReCraft Bazaar Opening Reception, local artists using recycled & reused items, exhibit runs through Dec. 31, 2-4pm, BRING's Planet Improvement Center, 4446 Franklin Blvd., 746-3023, www.bringrecycling.org. FREE.

Standhardt Studio Holiday Open Studio & Pottery Sale, 10am-4pm today & noon-4pm Sunday, 4875 Garnet St., 514-4646. FREE.

Tim Boyden's Holiday Open Studio & Sale, 11am-5pm today & tomorrow, 1568 Fairmount Blvd. FREE.

Holiday Artisan Open House, wares by local arists, refreshments, 6-10pm, Studio Energia, 2548 Potter St., www.studiocartouche.com. FREE.

BENEFITS Holiday Tea, tea tasting, treats, socializer, benefits Food for Lane County, 11am-12:30pm, Celebration Dance Studio, 18th & Willamette, 653-2840. \$20.

Emerald Valley Opry, feat. Rick Miller Band, Dallas & PJ McCord, Eli Barsi, Alan & Frank, benefit for Eugene Mission, 5:30pm, Willamette High School, 1801 Echo Hollow Rd. \$6, \$5 sen., \$4 w/canned food don.

Cascadia Wildland's Annual Wonderland Auction, live & silent auctions, music w/Three on a Tree, dinner, drinks, slide-show, cocktail attire encouraged, 6-10pm, Erb Memorial Union, UO, www.cascwild.org. \$20 adv., \$25 door.

Holiday Ice Show continues. See Friday.

DANCE Adventures in Narnia Ballet, based on *The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe*, 1pm & 7pm today; 4pm Sunday, Lane Community College Theatre Performance Hall, 4000 E. 30th Ave. \$13, \$10 kids adv., \$12-\$15 door.

"Not You, Nor I, But Both" Relational Dance Performance, feat. Humdance, TouchMonkey & guests, 8pm, Fenario Gallery, 881 Willamette. \$12.

FARMERS' MARKETS Lorane Saturday Market, local produce & crafts, 10am-3pm, Common Area, Dew Drop Inn, 80301 Territorial Rd., Lorane. FREE.

Applegate Trail Community Market, crafts & produce, 2-7pm, Curtin, I-5 exit 163. 942-1222. FREE.

Farmers' Market, 9am-1pm, Bakery (behind Mazzi's). FREE. Brownsville Holiday Farmers' Market, crafts, gifts, produce, live music, 10am-2pm, Old Fire Hall, downtown Brownville, 868-4822, www.gocfa.org. FREE.

GATHERINGS Wellsprings Friends School Annual Free Sale, take what you need, leave the rest, 9am-noon, Wellsprings Friends School, 3590 W. 18th Ave., www.wellspringfriends.org. Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, feat. music w/Willagillespie School Choir, 10:30am; O'Carolan's Consort, 11am; Soromundi Lesbian Chorus of Eugene, noon; Janet Bates with the Instruments of Change, 1pm; Darcy Du Ruz & Ben Farrell, 2pm; Olem Alves & Inner Limits, 3:15pm; Cal Young Jazz Band, 4:45pm, Lane County Fairgrounds, 13th & Jefferson, www.holidaymarket.org. FREE.

Veneta Holiday Market, 10am-6pm today & tomorrow, West Lane Shopping Center, Veneta, 206-4498. FREE.

Eugene Pokemon League, noon, The Coaching Center, 4750 Village Plaza Loop, 653-0111. FREE.

Super Stitches Clothing Repair & Alteration Day, music w/the Stone Jumpers, noon-7pm, Redoux Parlour, 780 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Victorian Holiday Tea, three-course luncheon, 12:30pm today & tomorrow, Campbell House Inn, 252 Pearl St. \$34, \$18 kids 12 & under.

Celebration of Trees, view theme-decorated Christmas trees, 2-7pm, Willamette Activity Center, 47674 School St., Oakridge. \$1 or non-perishable food don.

Posadas Celebration, food, music, piñatas, 6-9pm, Whiteaker School, 21N. Grand St., 746-6022. FREE.

English Madrigal Dinner continues. See Friday.

Fifth St. Public Market Holiday Artisans Bazaar continues. See Friday.

KIDS/FAMILIES Breakfast w/ the Grinch, 8-10am, Applebee's Restaurant, Gateway Mall. \$7.

Pancake Breakfast w/Santa & Mrs. Claus, bike raffle, bake sale, crafts, jewelry, 8:30am-noon, St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 1465 Coburg Rd. \$7, \$5 kids 12 & under.

Breakfast w/Santa, pancake buffet, crafts, 9-11am, Holiday Inn, 919 Kruse Way. \$6.

Breakfast w/Santa, 9:30am, Peterson Barn Community Center, 870 Berntzen Rd. \$5.

Family Music Time w/Anahid Bertrand, song, dance, all ages, 10:15am, Downtown Library. FREE.

Dog Tale Time, grades 1-6, 15-minute sessions reading to trained dogs, 2-3:30, Downtown Library, pre-reg. at 682-5450. FREE.

LECTURES Travel Info Computer Class, tips on researching travel on internet, 10-noon, Downtown Library, pre-reg. at 682-5450. FREE.

Lessons in the Learnscape Workshop: Save Energy, Save Money, low-cost home energy efficiency, 1-4pm, Nearby Nature Yurt, Alton Baker Park.

LITERARY ARTS Reading & Booksigning w/Bob Welch, 2pm, Downtown Library. FREE.

Eugene Poetry Slam, feat. Manifest Destiny, open mic, slam, all ages, 7pm, Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette St., www.eugenepoetryslam.com. \$5 min. don.

MUSIC Emerald Chamber Players, classical, seasonal, 2pm, The Atrium, 10th & Olive. FREE.

Kef, Balkan folk, 3pm, Springfield City Hall Lobby, 225 Fifth St., 726-2237. FREE.

Oregon Children's Choir Holiday Concert, 3pm & 7pm, First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St., 343-0840. \$10, \$8 stu., \$25 family.

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Eugene Ballet Company presents
The Nutcracker
Friday, December 18 at 7:30 PM
Saturday, December 19 at 2:00 PM & 7:30 PM
Sunday, December 20 at 2:00 PM
SILVA - Tix: \$48-\$22; student & youth discounts available
Add magic to your holiday with this seasonal classic.

Eugene Opera presents
The Marriage of Figaro
Thursday, December 31 at 7:30 PM
Sunday, January 3 at 2:30 PM
SILVA - Tix: \$85-\$26; student & youth discounts available
Celebrate the holidays with the greatest comic opera ever written. From the world-famous overture to the heart-stopping tenderness of the finale, experience Mozart at his best.

Figaro for the Family
Sunday, January 2 at 2:30 PM
SILVA - Tix: \$35-\$18; youth discounts available available
This special performance will introduce the magic of opera to all ages.

Wells Fargo Broadway In Eugene presents
The Wedding Singer
Wednesday, January 6 at 7:30 PM
Thursday, January 7 at 7:30 PM
SILVA - Tix: \$47.50-\$27.50 student & youth discounts available
It's three weddings, a bar mitzvah and a wild trip to a Vegas "chapel of love" in this 80's big-hair musical.

ENTERTAINMENT ON SALE:

- Oregon Mozart Players presents
South of the Border (SILVA - Jan. 9 & 10)
- The EDGE presents
Dance for a Reason 2010 (SILVA - Jan. 23)
- Hult Presents
Popovich Comedy Pet Theater (SILVA - Jan. 31)
- Artbeat presents
In the Mood - A 1940's Musical Revue (SILVA - Feb. 5)

TICKET OFFICE HOURS:
Tue-Fri 12-5; Sat 11AM-3PM
Open Mondays in Dec., 12/14 & 12/28, noon-5PM

UO ticket outlet in the EMU:
December through 12/11 Mon-Fri 9-5
December 14-18, Mon-Fri 10-4
CLOSED 12/19-1/3

The Nutcracker

WOW Hall Membership Party: hosted by Queen Accordionina, feat. Halie Loren & Matt Treder, the Accordion-Okie! All Stars, Misguided Children, David Rogers, 7pm, WOW Hall. \$5-plus sug. don. \$15 includes membership, FREE for WOW members. Winter Songs w/John Sarantos, Native American instrumentation, singing, storytelling, 7-9pm, Freedom Yoga, 1633 Willamette St., 554-3216. \$12 adv., \$15 door. Eugene Symphony presents Chambers Family Foundation Yuletide Celebration, feat. Jodi Benson, voice of *The Little Mermaid*, tap-dancing Santas, 7:30pm today & 2:30pm tomorrow, Hult Center, www.eugeneholidaytickets.com, 682-5000. \$15-\$48.

Portland Cello Project, 8pm, Cozmic Pizza, www.portlandcelloproject.com. \$10. Chuck Prophet, rock, 9:30pm, Sam Bond's. \$10.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION

Obsidians: Trapper Creek to Westview, snowshoe, 5 miles, sign up at Eugene YMCA.

GEARs Bike Ride: Rattlesnake Creek Rd., 54 miles, 10am, Alton Baker Park, www.eugenegears.org. FREE.

Jingle Bells Run, 8K run, 5K run/walk, 700 meter kids run, candy canes, visit from Santa, 10am, Maurie Jacobs Park, River Rd. at Fir Lane. \$15-\$20 & up.

Fall Nature Quest: Warm in the Wild, build a simple shelter, learn how to stay warm in wilderness, snacks, all ages, 10am-

noon, Alton Baker Park Host Residence, 1820 Roosevelt Blvd., pre-reg. and info at 687-9699. \$2, \$5 family.

PETS Santa Paws "Home for Hounds" Adoption Event, retired racing greyhounds ready for adoption, noon-5pm today & tomorrow, Petsmart, 2847 Chad Dr., www.homes4hounds.com.

SOCIAL DANCE USA Dance, Hustle lessons included, intermediate, 5-6pm; beginning, 6-7pm; open dance, 7-9:30pm, Vet's Club, 1626 Willamette St. \$8, \$5 mem.

Contra Dance, 8pm, Roosevelt Middle School Gym, 680 E. 24th Ave., 521-0596. \$7, \$6 stu.

SPIRITUAL "From Darkness Into Light" Chanukkah Shabbat Morning Chant Circle w/Beth

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Dec. 13th, 10 - 5pm

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CALENDAR



Portland filmmaker Chel White appears Friday at DIVA's Film Forum

Miriam Rose & Lisa Kaye, 10:30am-noon, Center for Spiritual Living, 390 Vernal St., www.spiritpathnow.com, 995-3799. FREE.

Chanukah Concert & Celebration w/music by Matthew Rosenberg, refreshments, candlelighting, 6:30pm, Ahavas Torah, 2935 Onyx St., 844-1430. FREE.

THEATER Irving Berlin's *White Christmas: The Musical* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 10.

Marley & Scrooge continues. See Thursday, Dec. 10.

The Dresser continues. See Thursday, Dec. 10.

Much Ado About Nothing continues. See Friday.

Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* continues. See Friday.

Paradise: A Cowboy Christmas Carol continues. See Friday.

Magic Time continues. See Friday.

DANCE Adventures in Narnia Ballet continues. See Saturday.

FARMERS' MARKETS McKenzie Sunday Market, 11am-4pm, Walterville Grade School 10 miles east of Spfd. FREE.

GATHERINGS Holiday Market, 10am-6pm, feat. music w/Rob Tobias, 10:30am; Mina Wegner & Friends, 11:30am; Laura Kemp, 12:30pm; Chris Kokesh, 1:45pm; The Streamliners, 3:15pm; Gus Russell Trio, 4:45pm, Lane County Fairgrounds, 13th & Jefferson, www.holidaymarket.org. FREE.

Free People, food, clothing, music, fellowship, 11am & 3pm, WOW Hall. FREE.

Springfield Pokemon Cities Tournament, reg. at 11am; tournament at noon, Chuck E. Cheese's, Gateway Mall, 3000 Gateway St., Spfd, 653-0111. FREE.

Meet Your Maker Holiday Craft Bazaar, handmade crafts by local artists, 11am-5pm, Fenario Gallery, 881 Willamette St., www.meetylourmaker.net. FREE.

IWW/Health Care for All Oregon Single Payer Vigil & Educational Outreach, scrap the health care "deform" bill & start over w/ single payer, noon, Downtown Library, info at iconoclasmo.scott@gmail.com. FREE.

Fifth St. Public Market Holiday Artisans Bazaar continues. See Friday.

Veneta Holiday Market continues. See Saturday.

Victorian Holiday Tea continues. See Saturday.

LGBT Eugene/Springfield Pride 2010 Pride Committee Meeting,

11am, to participate send email to event@eugenepride.org w/ Skype user name.

LITERARY ARTS An Evening of Poetry & Music w/spoken word artist & poet Kim Rosen, 3pm, Tamarack Wellness Center, 3575 Donald St. \$10 sug. don.

MUSIC A World Harmony Singing Sampler w/Val Rogers of the Valentones, learn song & dance, join in, 2-4pm, Eugene Mennonite Church, 3590 W. 18th St., www.valrogers.org, 206-3326. \$12.

High School Open Mic Night, 6-9pm, Cozmic Pizza. FREE.

Jim Page, Chris Kokesh, Brian Cutan, songwriters round, 8:30pm, Sam Bond's. FREE.

Chambers Family Foundation Yuletide Celebration continues. See Saturday.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION

GEARs Bike Ride: Breakfast Ride to Walterville, 38 miles, restaurant stop, 10am, Alton Baker Park, www.eugenegears.org. FREE.

PETS Santa Paws "Home for Hounds" Adoption Event continues. See Saturday.

SOCIAL DANCE Blindfolded Trance Dance, tribal soundscapes, 6-9pm, WOW Hall, reg. at 503-869-8721.

SPIRITUAL The Art of Spiritual Dreaming Workshop w/Diane Erbler, 11am-12:30pm, Eckankar Center of Eugene, 2833-C Willamette St., 343-2657. FREE.

Ngondro w/Lama Sonam Dargye (Tony Albino), practice of Vajrayana Buddhism, 2-4pm,

Kagyu Dakshang Chuling, 917 E. 43rd Ave., 747-8634. \$15.

THEATER *The Dresser* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 10.

Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* continues. See Thursday, Dec. 10.

Marley & Scrooge continues. See Thursday, Dec. 10.

Paradise: A Cowboy Christmas Carol continues. See Friday.

14
MONDAY

Sunrise 7:40am; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 46; Av Low 33

BENEFITS "How the Grouch Stole Christmas" Tour feat. The Grouch, Mistah F.A.B., Fashawn n' Exile, The Prime, DJ Fresh, hip-hop, bring toy donation for Toys for Tots and get special prize, 9pm, WOW Hall. \$15 adv., \$18 door.

FILM Army of Darkness, sci-fi film night, all ages, 8pm, Wandering Goat, 268 Madison St. FREE.

Live Satellite Screening: *Living in Emergency: Stories of Doctors Without Borders*, live w/ABC News' Elizabeth Vargas, one night only, 8pm, Cinemark 17, 2900 Gateway St., Spfd, tickets at www.FathomEvents.com/doctorswithoutborders.

GATHERINGS Native Plant Society Holiday Social & Slide Show, bring a few slides & snacks to share, 7:30pm, EWEB Training Room, 500 E. 4th Ave., 746-9478. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILIES Preschool Fun w/Art, ages 3-6, caregivers must accompany, 10:30am, Springfield Library, 225 Fifth St., 726-3766. FREE.

MUSIC Reczone End of Term Party & Open Mic, 3:30pm, Cozmic Pizza. FREE.

ON THE AIR City Club of Eugene: "Partnering to Improve the Health Care of Oregonians" w/Joe Robertson, 6:30-7:30pm, KLCC 89.7 FM.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION GEARs Bike Ride: Social Ride, stop for coffee & treats, rain or shine, 8-12 miles, 10am, Alton Baker Park, www.eugenegears.org. FREE.

SPIRITUAL Open Heart Meditation, 5:30-6:30pm, 310 Fulvue, 914-0431. FREE.

Queen Accordionna hosts WOW Hall's membership party Saturday

15
TUESDAY

Sunrise 7:41am; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

DANCE Eugene Youth Ballet performs excerpts from *The Nutcracker*, open to public, 4:30pm, Sacred Heart Medical Center at RiverBend Main Lobby, 3333 RiverBend Dr., Spfd. FREE.

FARMERS' MARKETS Gateway Farmers' & Artists' Market, 4-8pm, Gateway Mall. 747-6294. FREE.

FILM IWW Screening: *The Secret of Oz*, documentary on world banking, 7pm, Cozmic Pizza, www.iww.org. FREE.

LECTURES Paper Marbling Workshop, 6-8pm, Broadway Events Center, 5th & Broadway, Veneta, art-inc@hotmail.com. \$5, materials supplied.

Attracting Winter Birds w/Audubon Society of Lane County past president Dick Lamster, 7pm, Fern Ridge Library, 88026 Territorial Rd., Veneta. FREE.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Obsidians: Spencer Butte, hike, 6.2 miles, sign up at Eugene YMCA.

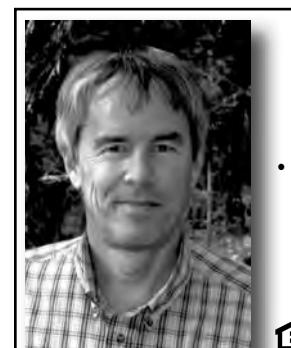
Adult Services Program Overnight Trip: Holiday Lights at Shore Acres, see lights display at Shore Acres State Park, overnight at The Mill Casino in Coos Bay, includes transportation from and to Campbell Community Center, 155 High St., pre-reg. at 682-5318 or www.eugene-or.gov/recenroll. \$75, includes breakfast & transportation.



16
WEDNESDAY

Sunrise 7:42; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

FARMERS' MARKETS Bethel Farmers' Market, fresh flowers, produce & more, 3-7pm, Petersen Barn Community Center, 870 Berntzen Rd., 682-5521. FREE.



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caLendar



Ty Connor performs his "Sit-Down Tragedy"
Friday at Tsunami Books

FILM Heckler's Night: *Red Dawn*, all ages, 7pm, Wandering Goat, 268 Madison St. FREE.

GATHERINGS "Finding Joy in Alzheimer's Caregiving" w/Barbara Passarelli, 6pm, Willamalane Adult Activity Center, 215 W. C St., Spfd, 345-8392. FREE.

Single Payer Action Committee Meeting, organizing public outreach, events & action promoting single-payer health insurance, 7pm, Growers Market, 454 Willamette St., info at iconoclasmo.scott@gmail.com FREE.

A Celtic Holiday, dramatic reading of Dylan Thomas' *A Child's Christmas in Wales* w/David Stuart Bell, music w/Linda Danielson & Chico Schwall, 9:30pm today & tomorrow, Café Soriah, 384 W. 13th Ave. \$10.

KIDS/FAMILIES Preschool Storytime, ages 3-6, picture books, fingerplays, rhyming songs, 10:15am & 11am, Downtown Library, 682-8316. FREE.

Family Night w/Rich Glauber, interactive songs & stories for all ages, 6pm, Cozmic Pizza. FREE.

LECTURES Eugene Public Library On-Line Seminar: "Rebalance Your Portfolio for 2010 in Just 30 Minutes" w/Christine Benz, 1pm, pre-reg-

ister for on-line connection by sending email to librarytraining@morningstar.com, mention Eugene Public Library, more info at www.eugene-or.gov/library FREE.

MUSIC South Eugene High School & Spencer Butte Middle School Holiday Concert, feat. Spencer Butte Choir, SEHS Treble Choir, Doriens Vocal Jazz Ensemble & Concert Choir, refreshments, raffle, 7:30pm, South Eugene High School Auditorium, 400 E. 19th Ave., 687-3188. FREE.

Sam Hahn, Jesse Mead, Tom Heinl, variety, 9pm, Sam Bond's. FREE.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Obsidians: Kentucky Falls, hike, 4.4 miles, sign up at Eugene YMCA.

GEARs Bike Ride: Average 16-18 mph, group sticks together, canceled if 60 or more percent chance of rain, 10:30am, Albertsons, 30th & Hilyard, www.eugenegears.org. FREE.

SPIRITUAL A Course in Miracles, drop-in study group, 10:11:45am, Unity of the Valley, 39th & Hilyard, 914-0431. FREE.

"Unlearning for Not-Knowing" w/Alan Zundel, 7:8:30pm, Tamarack Wellness Center, 3575 Donald St., www.heartawake.org. Don.

MUSIC Eugene Opera SHOCASE concert: excerpts from Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* feat. so-

17
THURSDAY
Sunrise 7:43am; Sunset 4:35pm
Av High 45; Av Low 33

BENEFITS Gaza Freedom March Student Fundraiser, help LCC student fund activist trip organized by Code Pink, screening of clips from *Occupation 101*, 8:30pm, Cozmic Pizza, www.occupation101.com. \$5 sug. don.

FILM Adult Program Matinee: *Frost/Nixon*, films showcasing seniors, 2-4:30pm, Campbell Community Center, 155 High St., 682-5318. FREE.

Teen Book Group & Movie: *Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist*, read book, watch movie, 4-6pm, Downtown Library, pre-reg. at 682-5450. FREE.

GATHERINGS A Celtic Holiday continues. See Wednesday.

KIDS/FAMILIES Preschool Storytime, ages 3-6, picture books, fingerplays, rhyming songs, 11am, Sheldon Library, 1566 Coburg Rd., 682-8316. FREE.

MUSIC Eugene Opera SHOCASE concert: excerpts from Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* feat. so-

prano Kelly Kaduce, bring lunch, 11:15am, Hult Center Lobby, 463-7543.

Fred Van Vactor, rock, 9pm, Sam Bond's. \$5.

Thursday Night Live w/Acoustic Etoufee, 7-10pm, Territorial Vineyards, 907 W. 3rd Ave. FREE.

OUTDOORS/RECREATION Family Intro to Kayaking, equipment provided, 7-8:30pm, Willamalane Park Swim Center, 1276 G St., reg. At 736-4544. \$7-\$12.

SOCIAL DANCE Inferno Dance w/Tex & DJ FastLayne, 9pm-1am, Diablo's, 959 Pearl St., 21+ \$4, \$3 stu.

CORVALLIS events

Note - Continuation dates for out-of-town events are listed under the first day of the event.

THURSDAY, DEC. 10 Blood Pressure Screening, 9-11am, Corvallis Senior Center, 2601 NW Tyler Ave., reg. at 766-6959. FREE.

Girls Night Out, wine, food, music w/the David Samuel Project, 5:30-8pm, The Arts Center, 700 SW Madison Ave.

FRIDAY, DEC. 11 String of Pearls, 8pm today & tomorrow; also Dec. 18-19 & Dec. 26, Black Box Theatre, Corvallis High School, 1400 NW Buchanan Ave., www.willamettestage.org. \$19, \$16 stu. & sen.

Christmas in Oregon, collection of stories, 7pm today & tomorrow; 2:30pm Sunday, Majestic Theatre, 115 SW 2nd St. \$8.

SATURDAY, DEC. 12 Food Film Series: Ingredients, 2pm, Peavy Hall, OSU. \$10.

Final Bidding Party, wine, cheese & friends, 3-6pm, The Arts Center, 700 SW Madison Ave.

SUNDAY, DEC. 13 Annual HOUR Traders Winter Celebration, locally crafted goods, music, games, silent auction, 11am-4pm, Old World Deli Arena, 341 SW 2nd St., www.hourexchange.org. FREE.

ATTN:

OPPORTUNITIES

The Borders store at 5 Oakway Center in Eugene is conducting a holiday book drive to benefit kids in need in Lane County; the drive runs until Dec. 24; for more information, visit www.borders.com or call the store at 345-6072.

Advance on-line tickets are available for the Newport Seafood & Wine Festival hap-

pening Feb 26-28, 2010; visit www.newportchamber.org or call 800-262-7844.

Open call auditions for *Annie* will be held at Upstart Crow Studios on 6-8pm, Wednesday, Dec. 16; for ages 5-11; for further information, call 688-8260 or visit www.upstartcrowstudios.com

Volunteers are needed for a Center for Community Counseling benefit being held Jan. 31, 2010, at Wildish Theater in Springfield; for more information, call 344-0620 or email margo@ccceugene.org



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art in the galleries

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OPENINGS/RECEPTIONS

BRING Gallery "ReCraft Bazaar," exhibit of recent works by local artisans working with recycled, repurposed and reused items. Opening reception, 2-4pm Sat. 12. Runs through Dec. 31. M-Sa 8:30am-5pm, Su 10am-5pm. 4446 Franklin, Glenwood

CONTINUING

The 1032 "Porch of Distinction," ongoing. 1032 West 3rd

All Prophets Tattoo and Gallery Anthony Hale, Enuf, Desi, Rachel, various media. T-Su, 11am-8pm. 411 E. Broadway

Backstreet Gallery Featuring Susan Weathers, through Dec. Painting, photography, ceramic works, mosaics, multimedia by Florence artists, ongoing. Daily 10am-5pm. 1421 Bay, Florence

Beanyer Recent works by Pam Enberg, Seja Stevenson and Barbara Weinstein, through Dec. 152 West 5th

Brenner's Furniture Lighting installations by Stephen White; woodwork by Tim Boyden, Tim Neun, Tahle Patton, Jeremiah Polynone, Seth San Filippo, Kerry G. Wade, Tony Walters and Robert Woodson; and oil paintings by Wesley Hurd. M-Sa 10am-7pm, Su 11am-5pm. 151 W 8th

Cottage Grove Library "Visions of the Universe: Four Centuries of Discovery," from the Space Telescope Science Institute and the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, through Dec. 11. M-T 10am-8pm; W-Sa 10am-6pm. 700 E. Gibbs, Cottage Grove

Creswell Library "Paintings of the Old Creswell Schoolhouse," by Sarkis Antikajian, Steve Cooley, Bets Cole, Rod Gilligan, Renee Manford, Vern Wright, Susan Warner Smith, Paul Bourgault, Paul Viel, Brooks Hickerson, Victoria Bledorn, Horst Hittenberger, Jacki Lukowski, Jeanette Kingery and others, through Dec. 7. 64 W. Oregon Ave., Creswell

David Joyce Gallery "Harvest Dinner Celebration: Six Years of Reflection," photography by Dan Welton, through Jan. 4, 2010. M-F 8am-5pm. Center for Teaching and Learning, LCC

David Minor Theater Work by Caleb O'Day Beauchene, through Dec. 180 E. 5th

DIVA. "The Great Hall," wall hanging installation by Kira Burge and Jessica Hickey; site-specific installation by David Teng Olsen; "From the Heart of the Rainbow Nation: South Africa Reinvents Itself;" sculpture and painting by Andries Fourie; "Observatory," an installation by Christina Kams and Gareth Spor; "Moment to Moment," photography by Susan Sutton; "Plastic Presence," painting by Sandra Kay Bulley, through Dec. Tu-Sa Noon-5pm. 110 W. Broadway

DIVA Holiday Annex Work by Ruth Van Buren, Lin Cook, Stephen White, Barry Geller, Renee Manford, Gladys Bacon-Rust, Terry McRath, Sarkis Antikajian, Dan Chen, Jerry Ross, Adrian Adam, Steve Rennuth, Ellen Tykeson, through the holidays. 80 E. Broadway

Dr. Don Dexter "Turning Over A New Leaf," photography by Ivy Hutchinson; photo-art by Ken Hale; through Jan. 28, 2010. M-F 8am-5pm. 2233 Willamette, Suite B

ECO Sleep Solutions Holiday Art Show and Sale, with work by Dena Amend and Tylar Merrill, through Dec. 31. 25 E. 8th

Emerald Art Center "Saving Sunshine," work by Springfield Public School youth, through Jan. 12; "Side Canyons of the Grand Canyon," photos by Stu Levy; work by Leigh Avery and Don Burgess; "Fun in 2009" by Michele Thorp, through Dec. 31. Tu-Sa, 11am-4pm. 500 Main, Spfd

Emerald City Jewelers "Places of Sanctuary and Legends," oil paintings by Isabel Dutroncy, through Dec. 1351 Willamette

Eugene Coffee Company Work by Melissa "Mimi" Nolledo, through Dec. Daily 7am-6pm. 1840 Chambers

Eugene Public Library "Connections," quilts by members of Tactile Expressions, through Dec. 31. 100 W. 10th

Fenario Gallery "Subcutaneous," fine art by local tattoo artists, through Dec.; "Retrospective," continuing. Tu-Sat noon-6pm. 881 Willamette

Full City Café Work by Lucilla Butler, Debby Barich, Noelle Dass and Margaret Plumb, through Dec. 842 Pearl

Goldworks Jewelry Art Studio Work by Jillian Buffum and Merlyn McGarry, through Dec. Tu-F, 10am-5:30pm. Sa, 10am-4pm. 169 E. Broadway

Grotto Gallery at Pfeiffer Winery Sculptures by Steven Reimuth. W-Su 11am-5pm. 25040 Jaeg Road, Junction City

G Spot "Yard of Distinction," ongoing. 1050 West 3rd

Harlequin Beads and Jewelry Work by Grace McNabb. M-Sa 10am-6pm. Su Noon-6pm. 1027 Willamette

Hoodz Gallery Alternative Gun Show (gun themed artwork from various artists); paintings from Joe Leonard, Taralee Guild and more; photography by Sara Nugent, ongoing. 1255 Railroad

Imagine Gallery Holiday ornaments by Toni Zybll, Mazel Studios and Glass Weaver; miniatures by many more artists; "Modeling Models: Architectural Fantasies," by Kip Amend, through Dec. 35 E. 8th

Island Park Gallery "In the Open Air," plein air painters of Eugene/Springfield. 212 West C, Spfd

Jacobs Gallery "Earth, Light and Stone," work by Anne C. Godfrey, Scott Huette, William Pickerd and Jo Warren. Tu-F 12-4pm. Sa 11am-3pm. One Eugene Center (under the Hult)

The Jazz Station "From Mud to Bud," relief sculptures of the lotus by Elizabeth Casey, through Dec. 31. Noon-3 pm & during performances. 68 W. Broadway

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art "NewArt Northwest Kids," through March 28, 2010; "Faster Than a Speeding Bullet: The Art of the Superhero," and "Superheroes in Japan: 19th Century Ukiyo-e," through Jan. 3, 2010. 1430 Johnson Ln., UO, \$5.30 st. & sr. FREE UO stu., faculty, staff and on home football game weekends

Karin Clarke Gallery "The Night Drawings and Other Late Works," work by David McCosh, through Jan. 16, 2010; McCosh's "Wigwam Burner" on special display through Dec. 19, benefit sale; Tu-Sa, 10am-5:30pm. 760 Willamette

LaFollette Gallery Drawing and etchings by Eric Peterson, through Dec. M-F 10am-6pm; Sa 10am-5pm. 931 Oak

Lane County Historical Museum "Changing Demographics: The People of Lane County," through Jan. 2010. "Toil Triumphant; Needwork and Handcraft" Eugene Park Blocks, the story of the town square. www.lanehistory.org. Tu-Sa, 10am-4pm. 740 West 13th. \$4. \$3 youth, first Saturdays free.

Lily's Closet and Yard Art Fun, flowing, found clothing made of fine fabrics for experiential play. 1283 West 4th

Majestic Theater Original art by Sean McGinty. 115 SW 2nd, Corvallis.

Maude Kerns Art Gallery "Art for All Seasons," membership exhibit; "Club Mud Ceramics Show & Sale," through Dec. 18. 1910 E. 15th

Mills Centery Gallery "Holy Encounter Photography," work by Anjush Vimawala and Mark Morris, through fall term. Erb Memorial Union, UO.

MODERN Work by JulieAnn Mills Testi. 207 E. 5th, #205

Museum of Natural and Cultural History "Down to Earth: A Geologist's Perspective," photography by UO geology grad students and profs. \$3, \$2 sr. & youth, \$8 fam., UO stu. & fac. Free. W-Su, 11am-5pm. 1680 E. 15th

Museum of Unfine Art "Family Consciousness Exhibit," work by Jimmy Sienna, and Seamus McKenny, and Ella Ray, through Dec. 31. 11am-6pm. 537 Willamette

New Frontier Market "Sculptures, Photos, Found Colors and Psychic Apologies," by Matt Kennedy. 1101 W. 8th

New Odyssey "Music of the 60's: Rare Photos of Janis, Ray and more."



The work of Eugene artist Jimmy Prahl, saturated with ink, paint and markers and containing a digital slant, is on display at WOW Hall through December.

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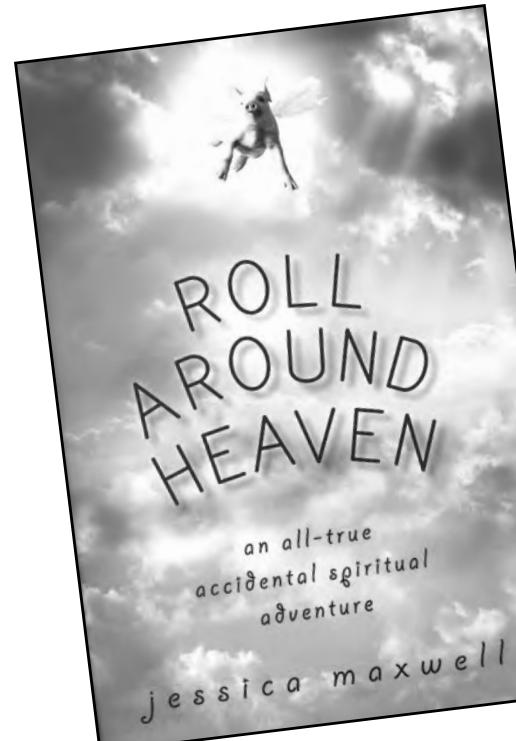


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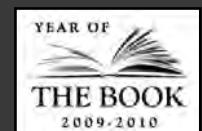
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INVICTUS PG13 10:35, 1:35, 4:35, 7:35, 10:35	INSIDE DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS: LIVE WITH ELIZABETH VARGAS NR ONLY ON MON. 12/14 AT 8 PM
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BROTHERS (2009) R 11:55, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20	PLANET 51 PG 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
EVERYBODY'S FINE PG13 11:50, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35* *EXCEPT MON 12/14	2012 PG13 11:55, 3:35, 7:05, 10:30
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THE BOX PG13 12:10, 3:00, 7:00, 10:20	SHORTS PG 12:20 PM
CAPITALISM: A LOVE STORY R 12:40, 3:30, 7:05, 10:00	SURROGATES PG13 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:35
COPLES RETREAT PG13 12:35, 3:10, 7:10, 9:45	UP PG 11:50, 2:20, 5:00
THE FOURTH KIND PG13 11:45, 2:05, 4:25, 7:45, 10:15	WHITEOUT R 2:30, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25
G-FORCE PG 12:00, 2:10, 4:30, 7:35, 9:50	ZOMBIELAND R 11:55, 2:15, 4:45, 7:55, 10:30
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Fri. - Sun. (1130 1200 200 230) 430 500 700 730 930 950
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Fri. - Sun. (1145 1230 250) 400 645 715 1000 1030
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Fri. - Sun. 5:10 PM 745 PM 1010 PM
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Fri. - Sun. (1225 245) 505 725 945
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NINJA ASSASSIN (R) - ID REQ'D
Fri. - Sun. (1150 215) 445 735 1005
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Fri. (1210 PM) 655 PM
Sat. (1225 PM) 925 PM
Sun. (1230 PM) 925 PM
OLD DOGS (PG)
Fri. (225 PM) 435 PM 925 PM
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movies BY JASON BLAIR



Love and Marriage

The dynamic duo of English football

THE DAMNED UNITED: Directed by Tom Hooper. Written by Peter Morgan, based upon the novel by David Pearce. Cinematography, Ben Smithard. Music, Rob Lane. Starring Michael Sheen, Jim Broadbent, Colm Meaney and Timothy Spall. Sony Pictures Classics, 2009. R. 97 minutes. ★★★★☆

The *Damned United* is a film about a notable partnership, one that within sports circles is best remembered for a tragic fall. The film is the story of Brian Clough (Michael Sheen) and his longtime assistant Peter Taylor (Timothy Spall), two coaches who gained a reputation in the 1970s as the dynamic duo of English soccer. Peter was the calm pragmatist and quiet visionary, the clever strategist and able advisor, while Brian was the motivator, the passionate speech-giver and brash personality given to highly inappropriate — and highly quotable — outbursts. While Peter and Brian might not be remembered as warmly as the Wright Brothers or even Ben and Jerry, their symbiotic relationship was one of tremendous balance, an alignment of brains and brash reminiscent of Karl Rove/George Bush and Steve Wozniak/Steve Jobs. In *The Damned United*, Brian is the "shop window," says Peter, while Peter is the "goods in the back."

The film moves easily between two periods, from Brian and Peter's humble beginnings at the bottom of the second division to Brian's eventual promotion to the manager of Leeds United, an elite and beloved first division club. In the earlier era, while coaching at Derby County, Brian is snubbed prior to a match by Don Revie (Colm Meaney), the legendary Leeds United manager. When Revie takes over the national team, the Leeds ownership approaches Brian, who accepts the position of his former nemesis without the support of Peter. The two storylines eventually

merge in the middle, by which time *The Damned United* is greater than the sum of its parts: It's a sports drama with a mild vendetta theme as well as a film about how certain friendships reveal your gifts as well as limitations. If the early period in *The Damned United* serves as the backstory for Brian's attempt to outdo Revie — namely, by winning a European Cup championship — Brian will learn in the latter period what life without Peter is like. It turns out that theirs was a match more perfect than Brian ever realized.

Short, crisp and largely fictionalized, the film is the latest collaboration between Welsh actor Sheen and screenwriter Peter Morgan, who, after *The Queen* and *Frost/Nixon*, continue their winning streak with *The Damned United*. We've come to expect great things from Morgan, whose screenplay for *United* absolutely crackles in the person of Brian Clough. Sneering and sophisticated, vain and childlike, Sheen's Clough is a top-notch performance that should be recognized at year's end. Director Tom Hooper, in only his second feature film, makes a huge impression as well, using soccer as backdrop for serious drama and not, fortunately, vice versa. Hooper and cinematographer Ben Smithard incorporate archival footage beautifully, including footage of Mohammed Ali calling out Clough on national television. (Both were legendary squawkers.) If the film's dialects are bit hard to tease apart at times, the lines themselves absolutely pop, such as when Peter refers to the center line of their squad as the "skewer in the shish kabob," which, when you think about it, is a memoable way of saying backbone. With a great production and terrific performances, *The Damned United* is, to quote Peter, the "real razzle dazzle."

The Damned United opens Friday, Dec. 11, at the Bijou.

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Help families and individuals in our community facing hunger. Leave a bag of nonperishable food by your mail box. Your letter carrier will pick it up.

OPENING OR RETURNING:
Box, The: *Donnie Darko* director Richard Kelly continues to perplex fans with his third film, a thriller about a couple (Cameron Diaz and James Marsden) whose lives seem normal enough – until Frank Langella shows up on their doorstep with a troubling proposition. “If you make a preposterous movie that isn’t boring, I count that as some kind of a triumph,” said Roger Ebert. PG13. Movies 12.

Changing Brains: The UO Brain Development Laboratory presents a new DVD about the effects of experience on brain development. Event includes children’s activities and a Q&A with producer Helen Neville. 6 pm Thursday, Dec. 10, Cozmic Pizza. Free.

Chel White: DIVA hosts a retrospective of the work of Portland filmmaker and “cinematic” Chel White, whose films have shown at festivals worldwide. His recent film “*A Painful Glimpse Into My Writing Process* (In Less Than 60 Seconds)” is based on an essay by poet Scott Poole. 7 pm Friday, Dec. 11, DIVA. \$6.

Damned United, The: Peter Morgan (*The Queen*) scripted this British soccer story, which focused on manager Brian Clough (Michael Sheen, whom *The Oregonian* says is “absolutely remarkable”), an abrasive, outspoken fellow who gets a chance to coach the country’s best team. With Timothy Spall, Jim Broadbent and Colm Meaney. R. Bijou. **See review this issue.**

Frost/Nixon: Ron Howard directs this look at the 1977 interview in which David Frost (Michael Sheen) took on Richard Nixon (Frank Langella) in a televised battle of wits. “Involving, engrossing cinema,” said the L.A. Times. R. 122 min. 2 pm Thursday, Dec. 17, Campbell Community Center, 155 High Free.

★ ★ ★ ☆ (1/29)

Heckler’s Night: The Goat gets out *Red Dawn* for this week’s Heckler’s Night selection. See it now, before the (totally unnecessary yet doubtless quite amusing) remake comes out! (OK, so you’ve got a while before that happens.) 7 pm Wednesday, Dec. 16, Wandering Goat. Free.

Horse Boy, The: This documentary follows Rowan Isaacson, a young boy with autism who has a link with his family’s horse. When the work of healers and shamans seems to improve Rowan’s symptoms, his family looks for a place that combines horses and shamans, and takes the boy to Mongolia. “A lyrical and stirring meditation on the mystery of autism,” said *Entertainment Weekly*. Bijou.

Ingredients: Documentary exploring the growing local food movement highlights many Oregon chefs and farmers, including Greg Higgins, Cory Schreiber and Nostrana’s Cathy Whims. 2 pm Saturday, Dec. 12, 130 Peavy Hall, OSU, Corvallis. \$10; proceeds benefit Ten Rivers Food Web.

Invictus: Morgan Freeman tackles a South African accent to play Nelson Mandela in Clint Eastwood’s latest based-on-a-true-story film, about Mandela’s effort to unite his nation “through the universal language of sport” – in this case, rugby. Matt Damon plays the rugby team captain. PG13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

It’s a Wonderful Life: You know what happens in Frank Capra’s 1946 holiday classic: depressed George Bailey (James Stewart) gets shown what the world would be like without him. David Minor Theater.

Occupation 101: This documentary, which explores the causes of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, shows as part of a fundraiser to send local student Michael King to the Gaza Freedom March later this month. 8:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 17, Cozmic Pizza. Sug. don.

Princess and the Frog, The: The latest princess film from Disney sets the classic story in New Orleans, where Tiana (Anika Noni Rose) meets a frog (Keith David) who, naturally, has a secret. Or a past. Or both. As frogs do, I suppose. G. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Rise: Fly fishing adventure movie screens as a fundraiser for the Southern Oregon Casting for Recovery retreat, an annual event for breast cancer survivors. 5:30 pm and 7 pm Thursday, Dec. 10, David Minor Theater. \$10.

Secret of Oz, The: The International Workers of the World present this screening of a documentary about world banking and the story behind government debt. 7 pm Tuesday, Dec. 15, Cozmic Pizza. Free.

Stepfather, The: A young man (Penn Badgley) comes home from military school to find that his mother’s new boyfriend (Dylan Walsh) has moved in – and maybe isn’t so cool as mom (Sela Ward) thinks he is. PG13. Movies 12.

Films open the Friday following EW publication date unless otherwise noted. See archived reviews at www.eugeneweekly.com

CONTINUING:

An Education: Relative newcomer Carey Mulligan has rightly been called “luminous” in her role as Jenny, an eager-to-grow-up 16-year-old in 1960s England who meets a much older man, David (Peter Sarsgaard). introduces her to the world she dreams of inhabiting. He changes her life, but not in the expected way, and not for the expected reasons. PG-13. 95 min. Bijou. **★ ★ ★ ☆ (11/19)**

Antichrist: Charlotte Gainsbourg and Willem Dafoe star in the latest from Lars von Trier (*Breaking the Waves*), a provocative and violent story about a couple who try to deal with grief in an isolated cabin – only to find things get a lot worse. Not rated. Bijou. **★ ★ ☆☆ (12/3)**

Armored: Matt Dillon, Jean Reno and Laurence Fishburne are three armored-car company employees who decide to steal from their company. And then someone tries to help, and messes everything up. PG13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Blind Side, The: Sandra Bullock stars as a rich Southern lady who takes in a homeless African-American kid who becomes a star football player. Tell me you see the problems with this. “What The Blind Side offers is a kind of liberal Hollywood version of conservative values: all rock-solid valor, all the time,” said *Entertainment Weekly*.

PG-13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. **Boondock Saints II: All Saints’ Day:** The sequel to the cultish 2000 *Boondock Saints* reunites the vigilante MacManus brothers (Sean Patrick Flanery and Norman Reedus); the rest of the cast includes the fantastic Clifton Collins Jr. and reliable Julie Benz (*Dexter*), but reviews are calling it style over substance. R. VRC Stadium 15.

Brothers: Jim Sheridan (*In America*) directs this story about Grace (Natalie Portman), whose husband Sam (Tobey Maguire) is presumed dead in Iraq. His brother Tommy (Jake Gyllenhaal) steps in to help; a connection is made; Sam returns, and things get complicated. R. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Capitalism: A Love Story: Michael Moore’s latest, a look at the still-ongoing financial crisis, is getting mixed reviews; to some it’s an “emotional attack” and “scattershot and lazy,” while others think it’s moving and energizing. R. Movies 12. **★ ★ ☆☆ (10/8)**

Christmas Carol, A: Robert Zemeckis turns his 3-D obsessed attention to the classic holiday story. I’m assuming this will have less dick jokes than did *Beowulf*. PG. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Couples Retreat: Four Midwestern couples – among them Vince Vaughn, Jason Bateman, Kristen Bell and Malin Akerman – head off on a group retreat to a couples resort where couples therapy turns out to be necessary. Directed by Peter Billingsley, aka that kid from *Christmas Story*. PG13. Movies 12.

Everybody’s Fine: Robert De Niro is the pops in a friendly family flick about parents and their adult children. With Kate Beckinsale, Drew Barrymore and – say it ain’t so! – Sam Rockwell, who should do more *Moons* and less stuff like this. PG13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Fantastic Mr. Fox: Wes Anderson (*Rushmore*) steps into the animated world with this adaptation of the Roald Dahl book about a thieving Fox (George Clooney) who gets himself in a battle with three nasty farmers (the leader of whom is voiced by Michael Gambon). Anderson’s stop-motion world is delightful, but the film feels a little distant. PG. 88 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Fourth Kind, The: People are disappearing from a small town in Alaska; are aliens really to blame? Mila Jovovich keeps appearing in poorly-received thrillers and horror flicks; how do we stop this? PG13. Movies 12.

Funny People: Judd Apatow’s latest stars Adam Sandler as a comedian who’s received a dispiriting diagnosis: he’s dying. Enter Seth Rogen as a younger funny guy Sherdog’s character takes under his crumpled wing as part protégé, part employee. With Leslie Mann, Jonah Hill, Jason Schwartzman and Erica Bana. R. David Minor Theater. **★ ★ ★ ☆ (8/6)**

G-Force: Talking guinea pigs save the world! Or whatever. Is this just an entire film capitalizing on the animation used to create that creepy-eyed creature in the godawful *Bedtime Stories*? PG. Movies 12.

Inglourious Basterds: Quentin Tarantino’s long-anticipated WWII

movie stars Brad Pitt as the leader of a group of Jewish soldiers who “engage in targeted acts of retribution” against the Third Reich. “Energetic, inventive, swaggering fun,” said *The Village Voice*. R. Movies 12. **★ ★ ★ ☆ (8/27)**

Invention of Lying, The: Ricky Gervais (*BBC’s The Office*) stars as the man who brings lying to a world in which everyone always tells the truth – and finds fame and fortune in the process. ‘Course, things probably go wrong after that. With Jennifer Garner, Tina Fey, Jonah Hill and Jeffrey Tambor. PG13. Movies 12.

Julie & Julia: Julie Powell’s book about cooking her way through Julia Child’s masterpiece comes to screens as a two-part story: One part follows Powell in her Queens apartment, the other Child in France. David Minor Theater. Movies 12. **★ ★ ★ ☆ (8/13)**

New Moon: The *Twilight* saga continues with this adaptation of the series’ soggiest book, in which Bella, devastated with Edward’s departure, takes up with an old friend with a secret, and resorts to being an adrenaline junkie ‘cause it makes her hear Edward’s voice. Dakota Fanning and Michael Sheen join the cast as the creepy vampire Volturi; Chris Weitz takes the reins from Catherine Hardwicke. PG13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

New York, I Love You: Slight, sometimes sweet string of short pieces from a variety of filmmakers shows one side of New York, but doesn’t get very adventurous. Bijou. **★ ★ ☆☆ (11/25)**

Ninja Assassin: Doesn’t the title kind of say it all? He’s a ninja! And an assassin! And there’s a secret society, and a government conspiracy, and a gorgeous woman who needs saving ... “Even diehard fans of the genre would be advised to skip this one,” said the not-pulling-punches A.O. Scott on *At the Movies*. R. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Old Dogs: Two middle-aged dudes have to – gasp! shock! – handle a pair of twins. Mayhem supposedly results. Listen, I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again: Don’t give these people – the ones who try to spoon-feed you such schlock – your money. They don’t deserve it. Go buy a couple of lattes instead. You might get more giggles from them. PG. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Planet 51: In this animated tale, Dwayne Johnson voices an astronaut who finds, after landing on a strange planet, that not only is he not alone – he’s not *normal*. He’s the alien to the alien creatures who live there, and who really fear alien invasion. PG. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Shorts: The latest family flick from Robert Rodriguez is about what happens when a kid who lives in a town where everything is the same gets his hands on a magical, wish-granting rock. PG. 89 minutes. Movies 12.

Star Trek: Even the most crotchety critics enjoyed J.J. Abrams’ take on the maiden voyage of the *Enterprise* – and the rivalry-turned-friendship of young James Tiberius Kirk (Chris Pine) and Spock (Zachary Quinto). With Simon Pegg, Zoe Saldana, John Cho and Eric Bana. PG13. 126 min. David Minor Theater. **★ ★ ★ ☆ (5/14)**

Surrogates: In the future, we all control perfect robot versions of ourselves instead of running about in the world with our flawed flesh and blood. And then someone figures out how to kill a person through their surrogate. But don’t worry! Bruce Willis is on the case. PG13. Movies 12.

2012: Roland Emmerich continues his series of films in which the world is destroyed (*Independence Day*, *The Day After Tomorrow*) with this disaster-tastic absurdity starring John Cusack as a dad trying to keep his family together while the world dissolves around them. (This summary entirely based on conjecture from the preview.) Look, it’s just there for the special effects and we all know it, right? Why are you going? PG13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. **★ ★ ☆☆ (11/25)**

Up: In the latest film from Pixar, a crotchety old balloon salesman sends his house into the sky (via balloons, of course) to escape from it all – only to find that he has an unwanted stowaway on his porch. The praise is already flowing – and deserved. PG. Movies 12. **★ ★ ★ ☆ (6/4)**

Whiteout: Kate Beckinsale plays a U.S. Marshall sent to Antarctica to investigate a death – but she only has days before the long, dark winter really settles in. R. Movies 12.

Zombieland: Jesse Eisenberg (*Adventureland*) goes back to the amusement park (OK, so the films aren’t related, but it is kinda funny) in this zombie flick that costars Woody Harrelson, Emma Stone (*Superbad*) and ... Abigail Breslin? *Little Miss Sunshine* fights zombies? I’m in. R. Movies 12.

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PCP, Baby

Douglas Jenkins honed his cellistic chops at the UO music school, and he's returning with his band for a holiday party. Though it's only two years old, **Portland Cello Project** has recorded two splendid CDs, toured the country and soared to national recognition for its ingenious arrangements of everything from Bach to Zep, Abba to Metallica, Britney to Justin Timberlake, Arvo Part to Heitor Villa Lobos, Beethoven to Salt n Pepa to ... well, you get the picture. PCP shows might include anything from old TV themes to guest appearances by Portland indie faves such as Laura Gibson and Weinland's Adam Shearer. Such collaborations have given the multi-cello ensemble a unique place in Oregon's pop music scene. It's hard to believe that cellos can sound so persuasive in so many contexts, thanks to Jenkins' skilled arrangements, and even harder to imagine a cello ensemble as party band. But that's exactly what they'll be this weekend when they're joined by Matt Sheehy, Portland's Baby Ketten Karaoke night organizers and danceable cello music "from tango to Timberlake to Talking Heads," Jenkins says. Portland Cello Project's Holiday Spectacular Show happens at 8 pm Saturday, Dec. 12, at Cozmic Pizza. \$10. — Brett Campbell

**Music By Guys Who Read Too Much**

The Dimes are a group of highly literate and historically minded musicians who sing pretty harmonies and strum and pluck their strings gently, creating an intricately layered sound that brings to mind the airborne mellowness of Simon & Garfunkel and the softly rippling melancholy of Belle & Sebastian. The Portland band's debut album, *The Silent Generation*, was inspired in part by a stack of Depression-era newspapers read by singer-songwriter Johnny Clay. The Dimes' sophomore effort, the recently released *The King Can Drink the Harbour Dry*, is no less ambitious: It takes on the embattled history of Boston, and we're not talking the Celtics and Red Sox. With song titles like "Walden & the Willow Tree" and "Ballad of Winslow Homer," the album addresses nothing short of the political and social foundations of our inchoate democracy (including the Tea Party of lore the Republicans are currently vulgarizing and perverting).

Clay's narratives are extremely literal-minded — he drops names, dates and events without a hint of irony — and at times the straightforward storytelling smacks of a pedantic lesson set to a revamped "Battle Hymn of the Republic." Yet there is no doubting the passion and intelligence behind the cycle of songs. And beyond the social studies aspect of the content, the music itself is superbly composed and executed with expert precision. The cumulative effect of such artistic focus is impressive, if a bit academic. The Dimes, along with Cabinessence and Justin King, celebrate their CD release at 9:30 pm Friday, Dec. 11, at Sam Bond's. 21+. \$5. — Rick Levin

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Give Back

The ads suggest that the holidays are all about scoring more stuff, but the real spirit of the season is giving, and each year, **Kudana Marimba** offers Eugene the opportunity to give something back to the place where so many of the sounds we groove to – not to mention the human race itself – originated. This year's benefit concert includes the world fusion hip hop of MC **Marv Ellis's Platform** quartet, **Won Ton Nara** ("We Are One" in the West African Susu language), directed by Ballets Africains member Aseny Yansane, and of course the pulsating marimba ensemble itself, whose upbeat Zimbabwean dance tunes are an instant gateway drug to dancing. The concert, which includes a silent auction and info tables, benefits Ancient Ways (Nhimbe and Jangano programs that assist impoverished rural Zimbabweans), Tariro (which protects Zimbabwean orphan girls), MBIRA (a non-profit organization providing promotion and financial support to 150 traditional musicians and instrument makers throughout Zimbabwe) and Friends of Kenya Schools and Wildlife. Kudana's eighth annual benefit for Zimbabwe is at 7 pm Friday, December 11, at Cozmic Pizza. \$8-\$20.

– Brett Campbell



Marv Ellis

Make Way

This past August, when unusually gloomy weather threatened to wash out the spirits of the Northwest World Reggae Festival in Marcola, a succession of artists parted the skies with their music and messages – and the sunshine flowed.

Setting the clouds in motion, **Queen Omega** kindled the festival harmony with her calypso style and raw reggae cuts. The Trinidad singer was the much-anticipated feature act for Friday's all-female powerhouse lineup. Her side influences in soca, soul and dancehall genres add to a distinct Queen Omega sound.

She wowed the crowd by matching her empowering meanings to her melodies, getting even deeper with a spirited performance of harmonizing with Afro-Caribbean group Zili Musik.

Eugene residents have another chance to catch Queen Omega at the WOW Hall, with a king of Barbados reggae music, David Kirton.

Kirton recently won a bundle of Barbados Music Awards, including best song, best video and reggae artist of the year. He's also been trotting the globe, exposing listeners to his brand of self-made reggae that blends in pop and soul styles.

Queen Omega, David Kirton and I-chéle and the Circle of Light play the Conscious Productions 10th anniversary show at 9:30 pm Friday, Dec. 11, at the WOW Hall. \$15 adv., \$20 door. Expect nothing less than reggae royalty. – Sachie Yorck

Life of an American Man

A recent *Village Voice* article describes **Chuck Prophet's** new CD, *iLet Freedom Ring!*, as "a Born in the U.S.A. for our time." Life really hasn't changed so much for the average person over the 25 years since the release of Bruce Springsteen's ode to the American dream. Prophet's thematic new album takes the anxiety and nostalgia of living that Springsteen triumphantly elucidates, and updates it. He even titles one song "American Man" and paints an aching picture of corporate America and commercialism.

Prophet is sweet but never saccharine even when talking about a man facing the end of his life or lost loves, as on "What Can a Mother Do," which features sentimental vocal harmonies and a lovely fiddle performance by Sara Watkins (ex-Nickel Creek). The title track is a bitingly sarcastic, uptempo bash on the stock market crash, with the lyrics: "Let there be darkness / Let there be light as the hawk cripples the dove" and "Let there be markets / Let 'em run wild as the sisters of mercy just laugh."

Prophet has said that the record is a collection of "political songs for non-political people." He's a musician, not a politician, and he just happens to have a knack for electrifying the folk narratives, the anger and fear, of people who feel let down – by governments, churches, friends, lovers – and don't understand why. But perhaps what makes this so appealing, and redolent of Springsteen, is not just the music but the determination to persevere that underlies it all. Chuck Prophet plays at 9:30 pm Saturday, Dec. 12, at Sam Bond's. 21+. \$15. – Vanessa Salvia

**Not Grynch, but Grouch**

If our culture ever evolves to consider hip hop synonymous with the holidays, it'll happen because of **The Grouch**, one of the most well-known members of L.A.-based crew the Living Legends. He came by his name recognition honestly; the guy tours all the time, especially on the West Coast. And part of that rigorous touring schedule is "How the Grouch Stole Christmas," a show that's become as much of a holiday tradition for some hip hop heads as the film from which the tour's name was derived – but better, because the Grouch won't come down your chimney and steal your presents. Instead, anyone who brings a new toy to the show for Toys for Tots gets a "free gift" from The Grouch, and there's a good chance it'll be a copy of his latest nine-song album, *Three Eyes Off the Time*, which drops Dec. 8. You'll definitely want to show up early enough to catch **The Prime**, a new project featuring Luckyiam (also of the Living Legends) and Sapient (of Portland crew Sandpeople). Their first EP, *One Uppers*, is a collection of head-nodders; you know, the kind of shit you should really bump in your car, in your headphones or anywhere you can actually pay attention to what these dudes are saying. "Nerd rappers won't like this / Gangsta rappers won't like this / Indie rockers won't like this / This is for the heads," they say on "All Star Crushfest." Probably untrue, but the message is clear: We're making the music we wanna make, and if you don't like it, it's because you're not smart enough to get it. Point taken. The Grouch and The Prime perform with Mistah FAB, Fashawn 'n Exile and DJ Fresh at 9 pm Monday, Dec. 14, at the WOW Hall. \$15 adv., \$18 door. – Sara Brickner



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NIGHTLIFE

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THURSDAY DECEMBER 10

AXE & FIDDLE Colin Lake-8; Blues, soul, n/c
BAR 201 Mixology Thursday-7; Jazz fusion, n/c
BLACK FOREST Ferai's Variety Show-9; Variety, n/c
BLIND PIG Open Mic-8; n/c
BLUEPRINT 90s Night w/DJ Tekneek-8; Hip hop
CAFÉ MAROC Belly Dancing ft./Amira Azar-6:30, 7:45; n/c
THE CITY DJ Tunes!-10; DJ, variety, n/c
DAVIS' Brimstone Sounds-11; Hip hop, reggae, n/c
THE DISTRICT Thursday Throwbacks w/DJ Food Stamp-10; Dance, n/c
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Andy Andrist Ruins Christmas-7; Comedy, \$5; James Green's Funk Jam-9; Funk
EPIC SPACE Bastard Noise, Rye Wolves & guest-8; \$6, all ages
EUGENE COFFEE CO. Open Mic-7; Variety, don.
GOODFELLA'S Cheap Truck-9:30; Rock&roll, n/c
JOE'S BAR The Starvin' Artist Showcase-9; Variety, \$2/artists free
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall, n/c
JOHN HENRY'S '80s Night-9; \$3

FRIDAY DECEMBER 11

ASTORIA BAR Rodent, Dry County Crooks-9; n/c
A TASTE GOURMET Paul Biondi & guest-6; n/c
AXE & FIDDLE Petunia & the Vipers, Mood Area 52-8:30; Hillbilly, indie, \$5
B&B LOUNGE Cowboy Cadillac-8; Country, rockabilly, n/c
THE BEANERY Eagle Park Slim-7
BLACK FOREST "Little Metal Devil Presents", Still Dead, Wild Boar Cannery, Septic Burial-9:30; n/c
BLUEPRINT "Vinyl Assassins" w/DJ Tekneek & DJ Rolo-9; Top 40, hip hop
CAFÉ MAROC Belly Dancing ft./Elena Villa-6:45, 8; n/c
THE CITY DJ Tunes!-10; DJ, variety, n/c
CORNUCOPIA BAR & BURGERS Colin Lake-10; Blues, n/c
COUNTRY SIDE Concrete Cowboys-9; Country, \$5
COZMIC PIZZA Kudana's 8th Annual Benefit for Africa-8; Benefit, \$5/\$8-20

LAVELLE'S Gus Russell-6; Jazz, blues piano, n/c
THE LOFT AT TURTLE'S Cobian & Stubbs-7:30; piano, conga drums, n/c
LUCKY'S Instant Quakers, Strum Theory-10; Indie, pop, \$3
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Musician's Showcase w/James Cisler-8; n/c
MCHANE'S Bingo-7; n/c
ONE CUP CAFE Basket-7; Rock, open mic, n/c
OVERTIME TAVERN West Side Blues Jam-8; n/c
PAPA'S SOUL FOOD KITCHEN Eric Richardson-7; Blues, jazz, n/c
ROCK 'N RODEO DJ Diamond G & Rob Reynolds-9; n/c
SAM BOND'S Physical Hearts, Sea Bell-9
SPIRIT'S Johnny Wilde-9; Rock, n/c
TERRITORIAL WINERY Jackie Jae & Jason Cowsill-7; Acoustic harmony, n/c
WANDERING GOAT Saucy Yoda, Mythological Horses, Leo London, The ILLusionists, Brother Bear-7; Indie, n/c, all ages
WOW HALL Edward Sharpe & the Magnetic Zeros, Fool's Gold, Local Natives-8; Rock, \$10/\$12

CRESWELL COFFEE & WINE Halie Loren & Matt Treader-7; Holiday, \$5
THE DISTRICT Bohemian Sound-10; Hip hop, pop, n/c
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Chevona, Volfonix, Manoverboard-10; n/c
EMBERS Mixed Blood-9; Classic dance, n/c
EPIC SPACE Zombie Bite & guests-8; Psychedelic, black metal, \$5, all ages
EUGENE CITY BREWERY Mr. Bill's Trivia Show-8; n/c
EUGENE COFFEE CO. Acoustic Open Mic-7; Acoustic, n/c
JOE'S BAR DJ Crown w/Brimstone Sounds-10; DJ, \$3
JOGGER'S Club Motion w/DJ Ty-9:30; Hip hop, R&B & more
JOHN HENRY'S "Pyrate Punks presents...", Pistol Whipped Prophets, The Hammered Grunts, Puke N Rally, Pirate Radio-9; Rock, punk, \$3
LAVELLE'S Brook Robertson-6; Finger style guitar, n/c
THE LOFT AT TURTLES Inner Limits-7:30; Jazz, funk, n/c
LUCKY'S Trainwreck, Denali & the Demon Squirrel Band, Purple Heart-9; Soul, rock, n/c
MAC'S AT THE VET'S Kevin Selfe & the Tornadoes-9:30; Rocking blues, \$6
MACENZI'S Too DJ & Dancing w/DJ Redd Fox-9; n/c
MULLIGAN'S ReadyMade Memories, Three Way Stereo-9; Rock, n/c
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Cub Scout, Sun Dogs, Ben & Jonna-9; Rock, n/c
PEABODY'S Dan Henson-9; 70s/80s/90s, n/c
PIZZA RESEARCH INSTITUTE Jason Butterworth Duo-6:30; Jazz, soul, n/c
POUR HOUSE The Deck Professor-9; DJ, n/c
ROCK 'N RODEO DJ Diamond G & Rob Reynolds-9; \$3
SAM BOND'S Dimes CD Release Party w/ Cabinessence, Justin King-9:30; \$5

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MONDAY	Taylor's (10)	Happy Hours (8:30)	The O Bar (9)	SATURDAY
The Astoria (9)	Village Inn (9)	Macenzi's (9)	O'Donnell's (9)	Tapatio (9)
Black Forest (9)	Black Forest (9)	Mohawk Tavern (9)	Driftwood Bar (9)	Tommy's B&G (9)
Country Side (8)	The City (9)	Oak St. Speakeasy (9)	Duck Inn (9)	Village Inn (9)
Goodfella's (9)	Cornucopia (9)	O'Donnell's (9)	Eldorado (9)	SUNDAY
TUESDAY	Country Side (8)	The Old Pad (9)	Quacker's (8:30)	Country Side (8)
Country Side (8)	Bugsy's (8)	Mohawk Tavern (9)	Raven A Pub (9)	Diablo's (8)
Country Side (8)	Country Side (8)	World Flavors (8)	Village Green (9)	Goodfella's (9)
Diablo's (9)	Diablo's (9)	Pour House (9)	Red Lion Inn (9)	Happy Hour's (7)
Goodfella's (9)	Goodfella's (9)	World Flavors (8)	Rodeo (9)	Original Joe's (6:30)
Joggers (9)	Joggers (9)	THURSDAY	AJ's Hideaway (9)	Our Place (8)
Mohawk Tavern (8)	Mohawk Tavern (8)	Axe & Fiddle (7)	Cornerstone Pub (8)	Prime Time (8)
The O Bar (9)	Duck Inn (9)	The Cooler (9:30)	Driftwood Bar (9)	Rodeo Steakhouse (5)
		Driftwood Bar (9)	Eldorado (9)	World Flavors (8)
		Eldorado (9)	Tomahawk (9)	
		Duck Inn (9)	Game Time Pizza (8)	
			Village Inn (9)	

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POUR HOUSE The Deck Professor-9; DJ, n/c
ROCK 'N' RODEO DJ Diamond G-9; \$3
SAM BOND'S Chuck Prophet-9:30; Rock, \$10
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Hip hop
WANDERING GOAT Pellet Gun, Kimosabe-9; Indie, n/c
WOW HALL WOW Hall Membership Party-7; Variety

SUNDAY DECEMBER 13

COZMIC PIZZA Free Highschool Mic Night-6; n/c
JAZZ STATION All-ages jazz jam w/Rich Platz-4; don.
JOHN HENRY'S Broadway Revue-10; Burlesque, \$5
MAX'S Steve Ichab-8; n/c
MULLIGAN'S Open Mic-8:30; n/c
SAM BOND'S Jim Page, Chris Kokesh, Brian Cuitean-8:30; Songwriters in the Round, \$5
VILLARD ST. PUB Chris Klein-8; Pop, folk
VILLARD ST. PUB Bingo-7; \$1



JESSIE MARQUEZ ENSEMBLE PLAYS DAVIS' SATURDAY

MONDAY DECEMBER 14

THE CITY Movie Night-9; n/c
DAVIS' Marty Chilla & Co.-8; Acoustic, variety, n/c
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Big Cash Bingo-8; Benefit, n/c
SAM BOND'S Bingo w/Tom Heinl & Scott K-9; n/c
VILLARD ST. PUB Trivia Night w/Keith A-9
WOW HALL The Grouch, Mistah FAB, Fashawn & Exile, The Prime, DJ Fresh-9; \$15/\$18

TUESDAY DECEMBER 15

AXE & FIDDLE Poetry Night-7; n/c

BLACK FOREST Rooster Blues Jam-7:30; n/c
BLUEPRINT Bring your own iPod, DJ Tekneek-10; Hip hop, club
CAFÉ MAROC Belly Dancing ft./Inanna-6:30, 7:45; n/c
THE CITY iPod Night-6; n/c
CORNUCOPIA BAR & BURGERS Jesse Meade-9:30; Acoustic, soul, n/c
THE DISTRICT OPEN MIC-9; VARIETY, N/C
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Open Mic-7
EL CORRAL Jim Garcia, Leonard Cirino-7; Corridos, poetry, n/c
JOE'S BAR Kenny Reed's Stone Cold Jazz for MEMA-8; Jazz, n/c
MAX'S e. geek's Knowledge Knights-7:30; n/c
MCSHANE'S Tricycle races-9; n/c
PEABODY'S Patrick & Giri: Fiddlin' Sue & Tom-7:30; Rockin' acoustic, n/c
SAM BOND'S Bluegrass Jam-9; Bluegrass, n/c
STABLES BAR & GRILL Stables Jam w/Johnny Wilde-9; n/c

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16

AGATE ALLEY BISTRO Phenwick's Acoustic Corner-9:30; n/c
THE ASTORIA B.Y.O. vinyl listening party-8:30; n/c
CAFÉ MAROC Belly Dancing ft./Rayshell-6:30, 7:45; n/c
COUNTRY SIDE At the Country Side w/Crazy Dave-9; DJ, n/c
COZMIC PIZZA Free Family Night: Rich Glauber-6; Song, story, n/c
DAVIS' Levi Poasa Trio-8; Acoustic, folk
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Blues Jam w/The Downtown Blues Band-8; Blues, n/c
EUGENE CITY BREWERY Bingo-7:30; n/c
JAZZ STATION Jacob Wick & Any Permutation-8; Jazz, 5
JOE'S BAR The Neon Fractals, The Magnificent Roach-9:30; Psychedelic rock, \$4
JOGGER'S DJ Tino-10; Hip hop, R&B, dancehall, n/c
JOHN HENRY'S DJ Kal El vs. DJ Tekneek-10; Reggae vs. hip hop
KOHO BISTRO/AZUL Open Mic/UJAM-2; Variety, n/c, all ages
LUCKY'S Manis, After Hours Jazz-10; jazz, \$3
MAX'S Lonesome Randall-7; Rock-N-Roll historian, n/c
MONROE ST. CAFE Open Mic-7; n/c
MULLIGANS Open Mic-9; n/c
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Children of Discord-9; Electro, n/c
ONE CUP CAFE Open Mic-7; n/c
PIZZA RESEARCH INSTITUTE King Toby, DJ Crown & guests-7; Roots, dub, n/c
QUACKERS Blues Jam w/Ray McCauley-8:30, \$2/ musicians free

SAM BOND'S Sam Hahn, Jesse Meade, Tom Heinl-9; Variety, n/c
TAYLOR'S DJ Simy-10; Jazzy house, hip hop
VILLAGE GREEN Jay Schlotterbeck Quartet-8; Jazz

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FR LAURIE MARKUS
SA MOEBIUS K
CANTINA 140 NW 3rd St.
FR LATIN X NIGHT w/DJ Castro-9:30
CLOUD 9 126 SW 1st St.
FR BRIAN KRICHESKY-9:30; Acoustic, indie
SA SAR SHALOM-10
DOWNDOWN DOG PUB 130 SW 1st St.
TH THE TURNTABLE ENABLER-10:30; Hip hop, soul
FR KID COUTURE-1; DJ
FIREWORKS 1115 SE 3rd St.
TH PURPLE IRIS TRIBAL BELLYDANCE w/Samara-7; Bellydance
FR ADAM SCRAMSTAD-7; Guitar, vocals
SA FUSION-8; Jazz trio
SU COIN OF THE REALM ORCHESTRA w/Zach Konowalchuk-7; Ukrainian folk
MO OPEN MIC TALENT SEARCH-8; Variety

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Tracks and Traces

"Earth, Light and Stone" at the Jacobs Gallery

Water on sand, grass waving in fields, fragmentary views: the photographers in the Jacobs Gallery's "Earth, Light and Stone" exhibit record the traces of time. Earth and light, air and darkness fill their work, at its best delicately balanced between recording moments and commenting on that record

with their process.

The stone part of the title comes from sculptor William Pickard's lathe-turned alabaster pieces. Yes, the man turns stone on his lathe, and the results border on the sublime. His vases of incandescent peach/pearl color and satisfying shape attracted most of the attention at both the

November and December First Friday Art Walks (the show opened the night of the November walk and was an official stop in December). Women and men lined up to ask the sculptor about his process and his secrets, and the artist turned into a creator of words as well, telling tales that kept a variety of artwalkers rapt.

Some of Pickard's best pieces in this show come with gorgeous lids, one (*Au-Nin — Inner Peace*) topped with an elegant bronze peacock by Dan Chen.

Though the remaining three artists each work in photography, none sticks to a conventional script. Scott Huette, who also teaches art classes at the UO's School of Architecture and Allied Arts, stays closest to traditional with his "Sands of Time" series. These photos, which he said at December's Art Walk demonstrate the effect of water over time, would be more interesting if they were smaller. Large and beautifully framed, their subject matter simply doesn't live up to the presentation. Sand. Patterns. Pretty but boring, although *Ten Thousand Things V* stands out a bit from the others for its more complex pattern. His wall of scrolls looks far more attractive, partly because of its mix of the familiar (each scroll consists of precisely the same size paper) and the varied (each scroll frames a different, small photograph). Huette said that the scrolls serve only as protection for the photo, a mounting material, but they do more than that. Though each scroll can be bought separately (and I think some have been; they're quite affordable), better would be several hung together as they are in the exhibit.

Talking with MFA-bound artist friends while I was studying art history, I learned that many visual artists loathe writing artist's statements. They're expected to verbalize, to encapsulate, an experience that eludes left-brain analysis. So they come up with things like "psychogeographic drifting," photographer Anne C. Godfrey's explanation for her series of works that attempt to capture the experience of a landscape.

These "Drifting" works can be printed in smaller or larger forms since they're digitally manipulated, but the larger they are, the more successful; they're each a series of black and white photographs seamlessly blending into one another, overlapping, becoming collages of the experience. Because they're meant to serve as memories, as evocative portraits of emotion in each landscape, color would only distract from their dreamlike qualities (Godfrey said something similar at the Art Walk). *Chicago Botanical Garden*, for instance, makes strange the familiar beauties of a color-filled space by featuring angles, roofs, light patterns, stairs, a lonely vista of bubbling fountains.



Work by William Pickard

But for evoking memories and emotions, the best in show must go to photographer Jo Warren. Her tiny prints of local landscapes, hand-colored and gorgeously mounted with worn-out camera parts interacting with each print, resemble the watercolors in Beatrix Potter books but also elicit recognition of modernity with their mechanical bits.

This half-Romantic melancholy infuses *Willamette Valley Strawberry Fields, Late July — Mother and Child*, a small piece that looks like it could be a minute reflection of and companion to monumental Millet or Courbet works. Maybe the work comments on migrant laborers? But looking more closely, recognition dawns: The mother wears contemporary clothing, the kid sports a hoodie; other people walk in clumps — it's a U-Pick field.

In Warren's *Into the Woods*, a triple exposure (each colored differently) of a Hobbit-like road with trees arcing over the path, she plays a small visual joke that's both sweetly balanced and amusing: three circles of tree and road; three circles of camera parts, diagonally placed across the prints.

Both Godfrey and Warren trouble still photographic waters by including their traces, recording their tracks and showing that in their worlds, the artist takes precedence over the documentarian, not just showing but ordering the world. **CW**

"Earth, Light and Stone" is up through Jan. 2 at the Jacobs Gallery under the Hult Center.



Take Flight

Community, kids and paint at Upstart Crow

Across the train tracks and surrounded by auto repair shops, kids are hard at work expressing their passion for the arts, dancing, singing and acting. At Upstart Crow Studios School of the Arts on 1st Ave. between Adams and Monroe, kids are encouraged to grab hold of their creative side and share it with the community. But even when the children are not performing, the public can still enjoy their work — and the work of adult artists who created Upstart Crow's recently unveiled mural.

This summer, artist Erin Bucklew and community muralist Kari Johnson, along with the help of Upstart Crow kids, neighborhood children and a grant from the Lane Arts Council, created a large scale mural on the side of the building. The wall painting is complete with a giant crow and everything imaginable that has to do with lines: music lines, a stream, a jump rope, a cat dressed in stripes and a line from *The Wizard of Oz*: "If the good Lord wanted to see mermaids swimming through a cow pasture, he would have put them there himself." Bucklew says that by choosing the theme of lines, she hoped anybody could participate.

Although Bucklew and Johnson started painting the mural in July, Bucklew says she worked on the design for about three to four months before that, studying, photographing and learning how to draw crows. After creating a format, Bucklew began to outline the shape of the crow with a tree pruner and then began to paint, using a paint roller. Bucklew says, "It's scary letting little kids on a mural." So when it came time for the kids to join in, Bucklew asked that each child draw his or her idea about five times before committing it to the wall. The oldest child to participate was 8 years old, and each child signed the mural after the painting was finished.

According to Upstart Crow's Executive Director, Eularee Smith, throughout the project, the mural continued to evolve and grow as new additions were made. But the uncertainty didn't bother her; quite the contrary. "It really captures the essence of Upstart Crow. And that's what I love about it," Smith says. "I think, in general, for the community and for the kids that come here, it personalizes the building and makes it their home."

The outside painting is not the only mural at Upstart Crow. Inside, you'll find two more murals, including another mural by Bucklew, the result of her desire to create a mural that connected to the kids' theater work. With help from her kids, Bucklew came up with a whimsical design focused on teenage themes, such as braces. The other mural is a colorful graffiti painting by Joel Fish, splashed across an entire upstairs wall. As part of the Restorative Justice Program, Fish created his own design, and during a weekend created an inspirational mural that follows Upstart Crow's mission: "The power of creative expression."

To view any one of these murals, head down to Upstart Crow Studios, located at 855 W 1st Ave., and watch for more about Upstart Crow in this space. — Natalie Miller

Gone, All Gone

Even the Bard can't keep betrayal out of the Very Little Theatre's *The Dresser*

In wartime England, bombs fall on London and air raid sirens cut through the evening's theater work. The capital city, under so much threat, keeps its glory amid tatters of buildings and scraps of courage; meanwhile, out in the provinces, an old man totters around, trying to hold together a ragtag band of misfits performing Shakespeare each night. That's the tale of *The Dresser*.

At the Very Little Theatre's Stage Left, where director Reva Kaufman won this year's counter-holiday-programming slot, the old man (Sir, played by David Wright) himself relies on his tatterdemalion crew and, most importantly, his dresser (Norman, played by popular local actor and director Michael Watkins) to get his tired body and mind onto the stage for *King Lear*. Watkins and Wright dive into this production and, usually with grace and intelligence, make the characters feel agonizingly, bitingly real.

Sir, a toweringly privileged patriarch despite his age and his trembling hands, his naked ravings on the high street at the beginning of the play, lives and relives the acid that eats away at his heart: Why hasn't he received the attention showered on another, much shorter, Shakespearean actor? Why isn't he performing in London, where his home lies?

Norman, who knows when to comfort, when to cajole, when to prod and when to lie, lives a knife-edge of uncertainty as well: Does Sir understand what Norman does for him? Does he appreciate it? And despite Sir's several jabs at "nancy boys," surely he knows that Norman's somehow a cut above the gay actors (one of whom, arrested for solicitation, has caused a cascade of actor changes for this evening's performance). Surely.

Watkins plays to heartbreaking laughs and admiration Norman's precise fussiness, his fluttering around and setting in order the dressing room amid the sharp stings of Sir's debauched state. A more tender Norman, one less worldly than Watkins, might serve for a few of the scenes, but Watkins' ability to direct no doubt enters into the character's ability to nail those trying to manipulate or get some advantage from Sir. Norman has to be a lion with hangers-on and a gatekeeper for the rest of the company; he must turn a willing blind eye to Sir's wife (Maggie Muellner)'s anger and know exactly when to head off potential complications with young females in Sir's orbit.

During the first act, I wasn't sure about David Wright's Sir, who spent a lot of time fulminating and blustering — so much time



Ron Hart as the scornful Marxist Oxenby, who despite his political leanings can't help contributing when the play needs him (he obviously cares about the theater itself, or perhaps Shakespeare, above all) and David Kessler playing an obviously eager yet half-inadequate Fool.

Lear ends in bitterness, of course, but with some hope for the future from men like Kent, and we see the common decency of Shakespeare's surviving characters in the middle of *The Dresser*. But who survives the storm of Sir's rage against the dying of the light? Not Madge (Sharon Sless), whose life's work crumbles around her. At least she gets a small gift out of her decades of devotion; Norman's cup contains a far, far more bitter draught. Indeed, as the slightly punning title suggests, is he more than a piece of furniture in Sir's conception?

Tragedies work their claws into *The Dresser* and give a lie to the concept of important last words, towering final deeds. Though Sir gives a glorious performance as Lear, that's not the end. Instead, the last thing Sir writes devastates one of his most devoted fans and rips to shreds their shared edifice of splendid, coruscating words. Stage Left is an intimate space, awkwardly jammed full of necessary set for this piece, but with fewer seats than the main stage. Get your tickets for the final performances now, and appreciate the interplay of Wright, Watkins and their two playwrights, Shakespeare and Ronald Harwood.

The Dresser runs through Dec. 13 at the VLT's Stage Left. Tix at 344-7751.



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Paul von Rotz and Jim Curtiss
in *Marley & Scrooge*



PHOTO COURTESY OF COTTAGE THEATER

A Dickens of a Musical

Marley & Scrooge tunes up a Christmas classic

At first glance, a musical based on Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* makes just slightly more sense than, say, an opera of Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* (Lead tenor: "Exterminate the brutes!" Chorus: "Oh, the horror, the horror"). What makes Dickens' tale of Yuletide transformation such a perennial favorite is the subtle balance the author maintains between his trademark social-reformist concerns and the abiding atmosphere of sentiment, nostalgia and general cheer required of holiday classics — something along the lines of what Frank Capra accomplished in *It's A Wonderful Life*. Which is why the notion of turning the awakening of Ebenezer Scrooge into a piece of song and dance seems so inherently out of whack. It would appear inevitable that the results could go only one of two ways: ponderous and maudlin, like a tone-deaf Marxist singing the *Communist Manifesto*; or, at the opposite extreme, clumsy and pathetic, like watching a declawed cat climb a tree.

So kudos to Cottage Theatre — and particularly playwright/director Keith Kessler (writing as K.K. Mills) and composer Gene Slayter — for having not only the guts to give it a shot, but for pulling it off with an unexpected degree of success. Kessler, a Cottage Grove resident, penned the first version of *Marley & Scrooge* in 2001; it premiered in 2004; and this current production is a revamping and updating, with additional compositions and arrangements by Brandon Rumsey, Ralph Stricker-Chapman and David Larsen. The cast is huge, and the show clocks

in at a bit less than three hours. The first bit of good news, then, is that the time flies, which is no small victory for such an ambitious undertaking.

The title of the musical is no lark. Front and center in the proceedings is Scrooge's late business partner, the chain-bound Marley, who is played with disarming zeal by Paul von Rotz. Apart from his direct involvement in the action, Marley also doubles as the play's narrator, observing everything and cracking wise as a sort of one-man Greek chorus. Scrooge is played by the charming and adorable (sometimes too charming and adorable) Jim Curtiss, whose natural strengths as an actor reside more in the depiction of pathos and cathartic joy than the scowling, muttering humbug of the story's early chapter; his face is just too kind to scrunch into a believable grouch.

In Kessler's retelling, it is the titular characters who become a kind of Victorian odd couple, bound but incompatible. And because of this shift in focus, much of Dickens' original recedes into the background, most noticeably Scrooge's involvement with the Fezziwigs and his dealings with the family of Bob Crachit (Mike Tripp). It's a sharp revisionist tactic, trusting the audience to fill in the passages that are foreshortened or sped over. The musical numbers — ranging from serviceable to suitable, and on the whole tastefully composed — function as character enhancements rather than advancing the narrative, which makes the production's brisk pacing all the more remarkable. The only truly unadvisable song is "My Little Child," Bob

Crachit's post-mortem lament for Tiny Tim (Matthew Goes), which is almost painfully over the top.

Most of *Marley & Scrooge*'s miscues stem from the intrinsic difficulty of transplanting Dickens' moralistic fable into a genre that is, by its nature, replete with artifice and hyped-up emotionality. When he isn't hounding Scrooge, for instance, Marley comes across as pretty damn upbeat for a spirit damned to walk the earth; the inconsistency of his dual personalities — half howling scold, half comic emcee —

occasionally weakens the underlying sense of outrage that gives Dickens' masterpiece its edge. And yet, even if they sometimes miss the mark, Kessler and crew ultimately succeed at reworking *A Christmas Carol* into something pleasantly entertaining. *Marley & Scrooge* doesn't pack the existential oomph of Dickens, but it's a diverting and respectful tribute to the classic.

Marley & Scrooge runs through Dec. 17 at the Cottage Theatre in Cottage Grove. Tix at www.cottagetheatre.org or 942-8001.

CW

Not Holidazed

The Shedd's *White Christmas* works its pearl-buttoned magic

Settling in to watch my second *White Christmas* production in as many weeks, I prepared for another few hours of Irving Berlin favorites and Magic 94.5-style entertainment. That crazy team of hoofers and crooners would follow a sister act up to Vermont all over again, dropping hit songs and one-liners as they went. I expected to be entertained, but not moved. I was surprised.

The Shedd's production of *White Christmas* is among most beautiful musicals I've seen in Eugene. The set is lovely, interesting while simple. Costumes are stunning. Music director and conductor Vicki Brahbahn masterfully handles the magical score; director and choreographer Richard H. Jessup delights with a string of song and dance numbers that made me want to jump up and yell "Again! Do it again!"

But that would have been unseemly.

What makes this *White Christmas* work is that it has all the fabulousness of the film version, without trying to be the film. Particularly commendable are the lead actors who sought to create unique characters in the shadow of their famous forerunners. Notable was Bill Hulings (fans of Willamette Rep will remember him as a Shakespearean actor), who brought soul and honest emotion to his Bob Wallace. Peg Major flat out rocks as Martha Watson. A number of ensemble members also managed to carve out small but fascinating characters for themselves, creating a realness to the production. The audience is struck with the sense of watching a group of show folks at a moment in their lives, rather than watching four lead actors with a bunch of people behind them just putting in time until they can get to the front of the stage.

Not all the characters survived translation intact. Gregory Paul Mathans (Phil Davis), while amusing and a beautiful singer, fell in on the wrong side of the thin line between irascible flirt and sleazy. This could have been hysterical, but paired up with Ecatrina Muller's charming, fresher-faced Judy Haynes, their romance didn't quite work.

Casting a faint dim on the professionalism of this show were a very few things. Jessup has a vision, yes, but not all the feet on stage could keep up with it at all times. Some actors seemed nervous, perhaps because much was being asked of them, and there was an opening-night awkwardness of juggling of props and costume pieces. And *White Christmas* does glamorize the tricky 1950s. An hour into this play you will be looking to eschew your funnel dress and Ugg boots in favor of pumps and pearl-buttoned sweaters. You'll head home with a mind to rent *Band of Brothers*, again. If you don't want to feel a little patriotic and swoon at a love affair that takes less than a week to come to fruition, stay home.

Because if you go, the spirit'll getcha. This delightful, professional production is a must-see for fans of musical theater. My Christmas wish this year is that the Shedd's *White Christmas* plays to a packed house every night. That, and a pearl-buttoned sweater. — Anna Grace

White Christmas runs through Dec. 13. Tix at hultcenter.org, theshedd.org or 434-7000.
See photos of the production at blogs.eugeneweekly.com

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The Gift of Wine

For a memorable season

Every year around this time, we here at Wine Investigations get into our Christmas/Hannukah/Kwanzaa/Solstice jangle and just jingle through the coming weeks. We deck our halls, don gay apparel, dash through the snow (rain, fog, ice, whachagot), try to mix in some naughty with nice, add dollops of spice and generally get ready for rounds and rounds of celebrations with pals and family, anticipating the coming of the Uber Elf his-own-self. In short, we feel the buzz in a big way.

In part, our work, just by its nature, pumps up the buzz. In wineworld, we pretty much live on our noses, 'cause such a huge portion of the wine experience involves aroma, and, as most folk know, aromas can trigger deep memories and associations powerful and primal. The scent of baking pumpkin, with cinnamon and allspice; a whiff of cranberry relish and roast bird; the olfactory symphony of pine and fir emanating from a Christmas tree; a freshly sliced quince; any of these can throw us into a head-spin that rips decades off our psychic calendars, and we're suddenly 8 years old and dizzy with delight, head swimming in a miasm

of scent, staring across a feast-laden table, one corner of which blocks the sight of a gleaming new, bright-red Radio Flyer wagon. See it?

Wine lovers live for this kind of riff: We dip our noses into a glass and inhale deeply and let those volatile phenols send waves of impulses across receptors, uncorking limbic cascades of past experiences. Just one example: Over Thanksgiving weekend, we rolled out to Monroe, to Broadley Vineyards' tasting room, to sample the first pinot noirs from the '09 harvest. Barrel-tasting it's called, and sometimes all we get are hints and allegations; the wines are very active, undergoing daily changes, some of them so ephemeral that what we taste now might or might not remain through the next year when the wine is actually released. We're tasting promises. Some will be kept, some maybe not.

Broadley's new pinots — all of them -- were exciting, but then we came to the one designated **2009 Jessica** (after



Morgan Broadley's wife): One sniff and a flood of memories wafted up — a '47 Richebourg, a '99 Domaine Leroy, a lavish and lascivious dinner with Kat ... The aromas/flavors evoked nuances of cherries, spices, roses, barnyards, on and on. One sip demanded another.

This is why the gift of wine works wonders for lovers of the vine: It makes memories, some so durable as to defeat Time itself.

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floral, sure, big draughts of white flowers, but firm and stylish, a lovely match with fresh crab.

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Mole and I, and all the crew at Investigations and at *EW*, wish all of you the sweetest and most memorable of holidays.

EW

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erty: BEGINNING AT A FOUND 3/4 INCH IRON PIPE MARKING THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 10 OF BOWLING'S ADDITION TO SANTA CLARA, AS PLATTED AND RECORDED IN BOOK 11, PAGE 12 OF THE LANE COUNTY OREGON PLAT RECORDS, IN LANE COUNTY, OREGON; THENCE ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID BOWLING'S ADDITION TO SANTA CLARA NORTH 86° 29' 00" EAST 15.00 FEET TO A POINT ON THE WEST Margin of LEA AVENUE, SAID POINT BEING 25.00 FEET FROM, WHEN MEASURED AT RIGHT ANGLES TO, THE CENTERLINE OF LEA AVENUE; THENCE ALONG THE WEST Margin of LEA AVENUE, NORTH 39° 31' 00" WEST 138.06 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH Margin of RUBY LANE, SAID POINT BEING 25.00 FEET FROM, WHEN MEASURED AT RIGHT ANGLES TO, THE CENTERLINE OF RUBY LANE; THENCE ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF RUBY LANE, SOUTH 86° 26' 07" WEST 90.00 FEET TO A POINT WHICH IS 75.00 FEET EASTERLY OF, WHEN MEASURED AT RIGHT ANGLES TO, THE WEST LINE OF LOT 10 OF SAID BOWLING'S ADDITION TO SANTA CLARA; THENCE LEAVING SAID SOUTH Margin AND RUNNING PARALLEL TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 10, SOUTH 39° 31' 00" EAST 137.96 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF BOWLING'S ADDITION TO SANTA CLARA; THENCE ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF BOWLING'S ADDITION TO SANTA CLARA, NORTH 86° 29' 00" EAST 75.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, ALL IN LANE COUNTY, OREGON. Commonly known as: 120 Ruby Lane, Eugene, OR, 97404. 3. NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY! A lawsuit has been started against you in the above-entitled court by its successors in interest and/or assigns, plaintiff. Plaintiff's claims are stated in the written complaint, a copy of which was filed with the above-entitled Court. 4. You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days of the date of first publication specified herein along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the plaintiff's attorney or, if the plaintiff does not have an attorney, proof of service on the plaintiff. 5. If you have any questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. 6. This summons is issued pursuant to ORCP 7.

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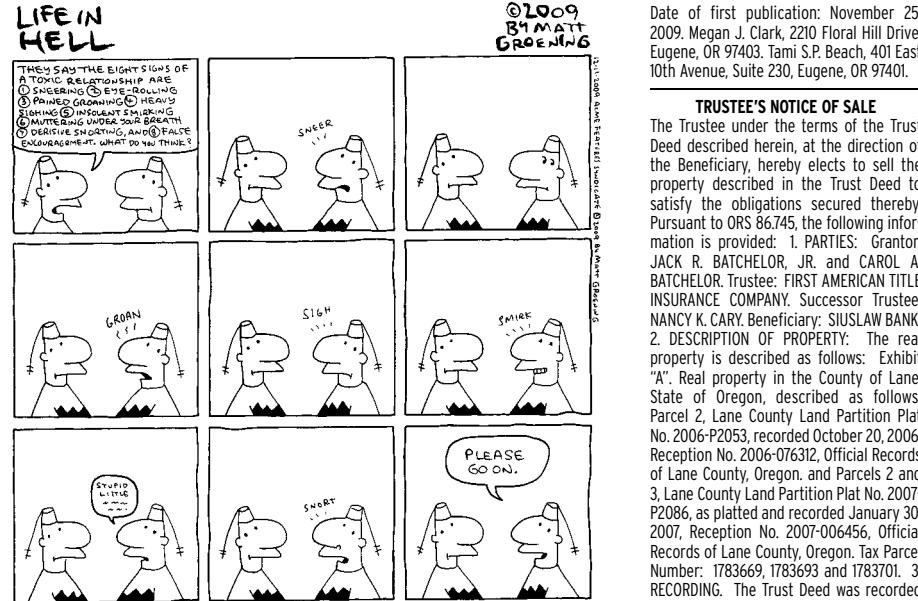
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Date of first publication: November 25, 2009. Megan J. Clark, 2210 Floral Hill Drive, Eugene, OR 97403. Tami S.P. Beach, 401 East 10th Avenue, Suite 230, Eugene, OR 97401.

TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE

The Trustee under the terms of the Trust Deed described herein, at the direction of the Beneficiary, hereby elects to sell the property described in the Trust Deed to satisfy the obligations secured thereby. Pursuant to ORS 86.745, the following information is provided: 1. PARTIES: Grantor: JACK R. BATCHELOR, JR. and CAROL A. BATCHELOR. Trustee: FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY. Successor Trustee: NANCY K. CARY. Beneficiary: SIUSLAW BANK.

2. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The real property is described as follows: Exhibit "A". Real property in the County of Lane, State of Oregon, described as follows: Parcel 2, Lane County Land Partition Plat No. 2006-P2053, recorded October 20, 2006, Reception No. 2006-07631, Official Records of Lane County, Oregon, and Parcels 2 and 3, Lane County Land Partition Plat No. 2007-P2086, as platted and recorded January 30, 2007, Reception No. 2007-06456, Official Records of Lane County, Oregon, Tax Parcel Number 1783669, 1783693 and 1783701. 3. RECORDING: The Trust Deed was recorded as follows: Date Recorded: August 16, 2006 Recording No. 2006-059039, Official Records of Lane County, Oregon. 4. DEFAULT: The Grantor or any other person obligated on the Trust Deed and Promissory Note secured thereby is in default and the Beneficiary seeks to foreclose the Trust Deed for failure to pay: The entire balance due on the loan maturity date April 10, 2009; plus late charges and advances; plus any unpaid real property taxes or liens, plus interest. 5. AMOUNT DUE: The amount due on the Note which is secured by the Trust Deed referred to herein is: Principal balance in the amount of \$156,000.00; plus interest at an adjustable rate pursuant to the terms of the Promissory Note from December 30, 2008; plus late charges of \$15,847.84; plus advances and foreclosure attorney fees and costs. 6. SALE OF PROPERTY: The Trustee hereby states that the property will be sold to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed. A Trustee's Notice of Default and Election to Sell Under Terms of Trust Deed has been recorded in the Official Records of Lane County, Oregon. 7. TIME OF SALE: Date: January 28, 2010. Time: 11:00 a.m. Place: Lane County Courthouse, 125 E. 8th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon. 8. RIGHT TO REINSTATE: Any person named in ORS 86.753 has the right, at any time that is not later than five days before the Trustee conducts the sale, to have this foreclosure dismissed and the Trust Deed reinstated by payment to the Beneficiary of the entire amount then due, other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred, by curing any other default that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation on Trust Deed and by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Trust Deed, together with the trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amount provided in ORS 86.753. NOTICE TO TENANTS: If you are a tenant of this property, foreclosure could affect your rental agreement. A purchaser



tion from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Lawrence Deckman, at 2406 Lawrence Street, Eugene, Oregon 97405 (541) 484-3782. Dated and first published November 25, 2009. Fred B. Schatz, Personal Representative.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE In the Matter of the Custody of Donovan David Wicks, a Minor Child: MARTI WICKS and JOHN WICKS, Petitioners, and MICHAEL WICKS, Respondent, and SHAWNA WICKS, Respondent. Case No. 15-09-19937 SUMMONS TO: SHAWNA WICKS IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON you are hereby required to appear and answer the Petition to Establish Custody. Parenting Rights, filed against you in the above-entitled proceeding within thirty (30) days from the last publication of this Summons, which shall be on December 17, 2009. The Petition seeks to establish custody of minor children, define financial obligations in relation to those children, and dispose/award real and personal property, and assign debt. If you fail to answer, for want thereof, the Petitioner will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said Petition. CHARLES S. SPINNER, OSB #76339, Attorney for Petitioner. PRIVATE NOTICE TO RESPONDENTS - READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY! You must appear in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the Court a legal paper called an "Answer" or "Response". This paper must be given to the Petitioner in the above-entitled case or his or her attorney to show that the other side has been given a copy of it. If you have any questions concerning this matter, you should see an attorney at once. IF YOU NEED HELP IN FINDING AN ATTORNEY, YOU

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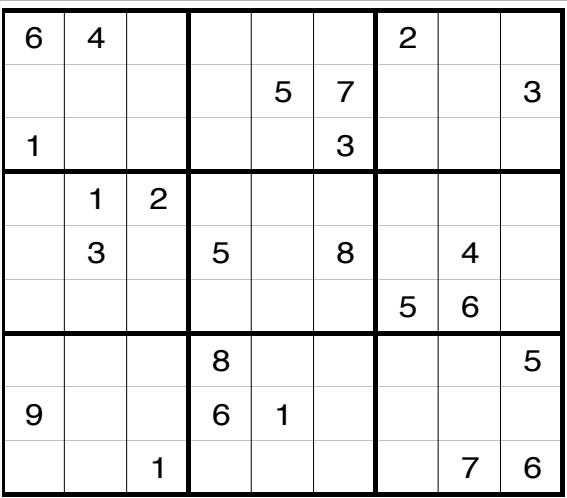
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Place numbers 1-9 so that each row, column and 3x3 square has each number only once. There is only one solution. Good Luck! Stumped? Visit [www.sudokuplace.com](http://sudokuplace.com) for a puzzle solver.

who buys this property at a foreclosure sale has the right to require you to move out after giving you notice of the requirement. If you do not have a fixed-term lease, the purchaser may require you to move out after giving you a 30-day notice or on or after the date of the sale. If you have a fixed-term lease, you may be entitled to receive after the date of the sale a 60-day notice of the purchaser's requirement that you move out. To be entitled to either a 30-day or 60-day notice, you must give the trustee of the property written evidence of your rental agreement at least 30 days before the date first set for the sale. If you have a fixed-term lease, you must give the trustee a copy of the rental agreement. If you do not have a fixed-term lease and cannot provide a copy of the rental agreement, you may give the trustee other written evidence of the existence of the rental agreement. The date that is 30 days before the date of the sale is December 29, 2009. The name of the trustee and the trustee's mailing address are listed on this notice. Federal law may grant you additional rights, including a right to a longer notice period. Consult a lawyer for more information about your rights under federal law. You have the right to apply your security deposit and any rent you prepaid toward your current obligation under your rental agreement. If you want to do so, you must notify your landlord in writing and in advance that you intend to do so. If you believe you need legal assistance with this matter, you may contact the Oregon State Bar and ask for the lawyer referral service. Contact information for the Oregon State Bar is included with this notice. If you have a low income and meet federal poverty guidelines, you may be eligible for free legal assistance. Contact information for where you can obtain free legal assistance is included with this notice. You may reach the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at 503-684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at 800-452-7636 or you may visit its website at: www.osbar.org. Legal assistance may be available if you have a low income and meet federal pov-

TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE
The Trustee under the terms of the Trust Deed described herein, at the direction of the Beneficiary, hereby elects to sell the property described in the Trust Deed to satisfy the obligations secured thereby. Pursuant to ORS 86.745, the following information is provided: 1. PARTIES: Grantor: SCOTT MARCOE. Trustee: CASCADE TITLE COMPANY. Successor Trustee: Nancy K. Cary. Beneficiary: OREGON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT, assignee of SIUSLAW BANK. 2. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The real property is described as follows: Lot 11, Block 2, FIRST ADDITION TO QUEEN'S HILLTOP, as platted and recorded in File 73, Slide 73, Lane County Oregon Plat Records, in Lane County, Oregon. 3. RECORDING: The Trust Deed was recorded as follows: Date Recorded: July 2, 2008. Recording No. 2008-038897, Official Records of Lane County, Oregon. 4. DEFAULT: The Grantor or any other person obligated on the Trust Deed and Promissory Note secured thereby is in default and the Beneficiary seeks to foreclose the Trust Deed for failure to pay: Monthly payments in the amount of \$1,65.00 each, due the first of each month, for the months of June through September 2009; plus late charges and advances; plus any unpaid real property taxes or liens, plus interest. 5. AMOUNT DUE: The amount due on the Note which is secured by the Trust Deed referred to herein is: Principal balance in the amount of \$172,561.76; plus interest at the rate of 5.625% per annum from May 1, 2009; plus late charges of \$208.85; plus advances and

foreclosure attorney fees and costs. 6. SALE OF PROPERTY: The Trustee hereby states that the property will be sold to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed. A Trustee's Notice of Default and Election to Sell Under Terms of Trust Deed has been recorded in the Official Records of Lane County, Oregon. 7. TIME OF SALE: Date: February 11, 2010. Time: 11:00 a.m. Place: Lane County Courthouse, 125 E. 8th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon. 8. RIGHT TO REINSTATE: Any person named in ORS 86.753 has the right, at any time that is not later than five days before the Trustee conducts the sale, to have this foreclosure dismissed and the Trust Deed reinstated by payment to the Beneficiary of the entire amount then due, other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred, by curing any other default that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation or Trust Deed and by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Trust Deed, together with the trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amount provided in ORS 86.753. **NOTICE TO TENANTS:** If you are a tenant of this property, foreclosure could affect your rental agreement. A purchaser who buys this property at a foreclosure sale has the right to require you to move out after giving you notice of the requirement. If you do not have a fixed-term lease, the purchaser may require you to move out after giving you a 30-day notice on or after the date of the sale. If you have a fixed-term lease, you may be entitled to receive after the date of the sale a 60-day notice of the purchaser's requirement that you move out. To be entitled to either a 30-day or 60-day notice, you must give the trustee of the property written evidence of your rental agreement at least 30 days before the date first set for the sale. If you have a fixed-term lease, you must give the trustee a copy of the rental agreement. If you do not have a fixed-term lease and cannot provide a copy of the rental agreement, you may give the trustee other written evidence of the existence of the rental agreement. The date that is 30 days before the date of the sale is January 12, 2010. The name of the trustee and the trustee's mailing address are listed on this notice. Federal law may grant you additional rights, including a right to a longer notice period. Consult a lawyer for more information about your rights under federal law. You have the right to apply your security deposit and any rent you prepaid toward your current obligation under your rental agreement. If you want to do so, you must notify your landlord in writing and in advance that you intend to do so. If you believe you need legal assistance with this matter, you may contact the Oregon State Bar and ask for the lawyer referral service. Contact information for the Oregon State Bar is included with this notice. You may reach the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at 503-684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at 800-452-7636 or you may visit its website at: www.osbar.org. Legal assistance may be available if you have a low income and meet federal poverty guidelines. For more information and a directory of legal aid programs, go to <http://www.oregonlawhelp.org>. Any questions regarding this matter should be

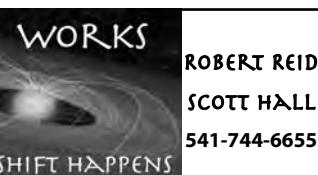
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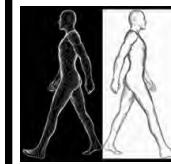
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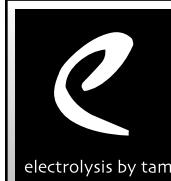
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jonesin' crossword

BY MATT JONES

"You Want Fries With That?" - some people do.

Across

- 1 "It's A Wonderful Life" director Frank
- 6 Effects used in computer-animated movies, for short
- 9 Vulcan, e.g.
- 12 Ultraliberal's place on the political spectrum
- 14 Actress Elizabeth of "Nothing Like the Holidays"
- 16 Olympics chant
- 17 Garnish that some upscale fries at Chicago restaurant
- 18 ink are served with
- 19 Wedding rental
- 20 Heart monitor readout, for short (var.)
- 21 Miss America wear
- 22 Filled Jewish delicacy
- 24 Garden pest
- 26 Ingredient served with fries and brown gravy in the Canadian dish poutine
- 30 Inventor Jethro and namesakes
- 32 Abbr. after a lawyer's name
- 33 Get up
- 34 Sounding like a sheep
- 37 Little Labrador
- 39 Sensed

40 Condiment most often used by the Dutch with their fries

43 "This guy walks into ____."

45 Dog at the end of "Family Ties" credits

47 Scheme

50 Former Portland Trail Blazer

Ramón

52 "Supernanny" network

54 Leather sharpener used in old-timey barber shops

56 Seasoning option for fries at the Japanese fast food

restaurant First Kitchen

60 Stash away money

61 Cub Scout symbol of wisdom

62 Scantron answer, perhaps

64 Dizzy Gillespie's genre

65 Boxing maneuver

67 Fast food dessert that some kids insist on dipping their fries in

70 Nighttime bird

71 Read retinas

72 Pashto speakers

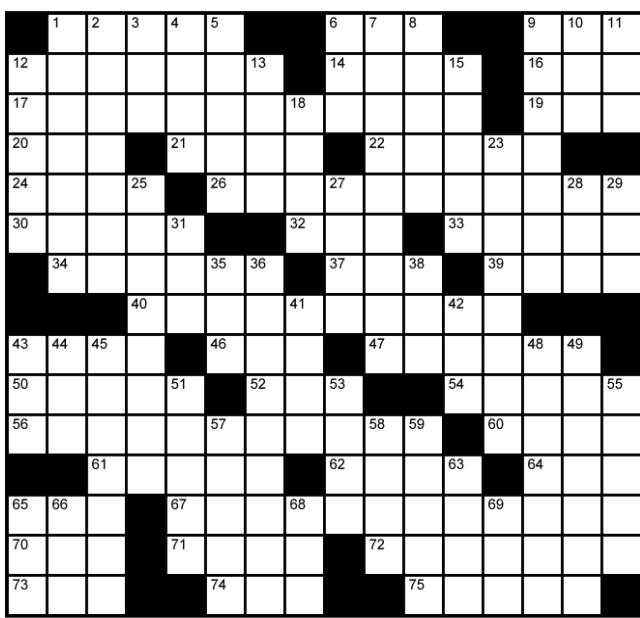
73 "____, ya think?"

74 Gp. that regulates carry-on luggage

75 Like a chimney sweep's clothes

Down

- 1 Group that specializes in Model Ts or T-Birds, e.g.
- 2 Rich, peppery salad green
- 3 Militant gp. that opposed the Oslo Accords
- 4 Football field figures
- 5 Insurance co. with a duck mascot
- 6 EMT's skill
- 7 Tech support subsidiary of Best Buy
- 8 Foolish
- 9 "Alice's Restaurant" singer Arlo
- 10 Sch. with a branch in Tulsa
- 11 Actor Shepard of "Baby Mama"
- 12 Analysis named after statistician Sir Ronald Fisher
- 13 "Worship at Red Rocks" musician John
- 15 Insurance company headquartered in Rhode Island
- 18 Navajo police detective Jim in a Tony Hillerman series
- 23 Overabundance
- 25 Genre for Gary Glitter
- 27 "Around the Horn" network
- 28 Internet connection via landline
- 29 Jazz band's playlist
- 31 "The Girl You Lost to Cocaine" singer
- 35 Director Jim Jarmusch's grad school alma mater
- 36 Lose one's marbles
- 38 Comedy staple that goes "splat"
- 41 Worn-down pencils
- 42 Reptilian warning
- 43 Story line's path
- 44 Scrooge's kvetch
- 45 Friendly
- 48 Reaches for
- 49 MSNBC anchor Monica
- 51 Twists around
- 53 Perfume company with fragrances from Beyoncé and Jennifer Lopez
- 55 Diarist Samuel
- 57 Put in office
- 58 "Major" constellation
- 59 Cocoa (cereal brand)
- 63 Therefore
- 65 Exercise in the park
- 66 Reverent feeling
- 68 The tiniest bit of evidence?
- 69 "Now I've got it!"



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Y	O	U	G	O	T	T	H	A	W	I
A	L	E	U	T	T	O	T	A	R	C
T	O	R	N	D	O	G	R	U	B	
P	I	T	A	P	A	U	L	A	M	Y
A	P	H	I	D	S	X	E	M	I	T
S	I	E	G	F	R	E	A	N	D	R
S	E	P	S	C	R	O	O	D	R	E
L	S	A	T	L	O	C	K	J	A	W
B	A	S	N	E	L	L	E	O	N	E
H	E	Y	W	H	E	A	T	A	M	I
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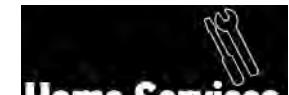
GUITAR LESSONS Chris Ward teaches Rock, Jazz / Country/ and Blues. Pro musician for 28 years. Education, LCC, Berkley College of Music, and U of O. 953-9096

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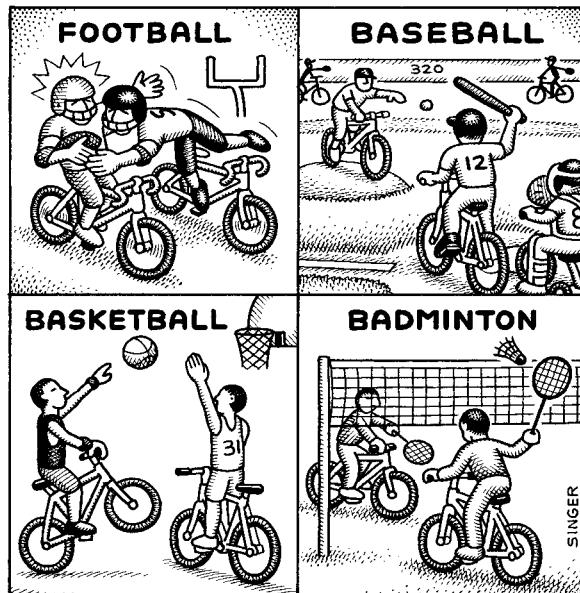
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

FLOWER SEEKS GARDNER
I am slender cerebral spunky sexy Flower seeking her Four seasonal Gardner to walk among the flowers, heather, and picnics in life's delights. Music, travel, beaches, mountains, tulipbabe7, 48, #104327



WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

LET'S GET WARM
I am a kind, caring, honest, soft, tender, fun loving, adventurous, exciting, sensual woman. Looking for someone to share life with. rosey1229, 52, #104444

SAD COUNTRY SONG
Looking for someone to hold me during the Apocalypse to help scavenge for useful trinkets in the pursuit of survival, possibility of finding off mutant zombies a plus. darkstar, 37, #101078

ROMANTIC, SPIRITUAL, LOVER
Looking for someone that is positive and knows how to appreciate the simple things in life, music, dancing, staying fit, hot tubs, candlelight, flowers, cozy fires, walks in the woods, sunsets, laying on a beach in Hawaii! SlowDancer, 45, #104421

HERE I COME.
I want to get out and meet some cool people. I have lived here all my life, but missing out on so much in Eugene. What can you show me? redsoxgurl, 37, #104383

PASSIONATE, EARTHLOVING WOMAN
I'm an attractive, fit and healthy woman (5', 105 lbs) 50, looking for a spiritual, earthloving, healthy fit man. Someone who knows what a conscious relationship is clear and aware. celestinegrace, 51, #104349

PASSIONATE MUSICIAN
Looking for a girl who wants to have fun and loves drinking tea on quiet afternoons but also going out at night. Free spirited is an instant turn on! Amourissima, 19, #104422

BAKING BIKING BOOKWORM
Looking for partner in crime to keep me warm this winter. Let's get silly and loud and kiss everywhere, have good conversation, ride bikes, drink coffee and adore one another. tigerlily-jane, 19, #104398

REGARDE-MOI!
Searching for a partner in adventure, a stimulating conversationalist, a lover. Let's cuddle and watch a movie, smoke some weed, laugh at farts, bake, and interact with the world together. turquoise_eyes, 20, #104183

RED MEAT

haplessly hurled humor hunks

from the secret files of
Max Cannon



POETIC MINDFUL MUSE
Live with intention and passion. Blush with shyness. Kind, honest, quirky? Come dance in the living room. Fall freely into the arms of life. Be my poem. Purring cougar awaits. Pounce! windswept, 54, #102143



MEN SEEKING WOMEN

R'LYEH CTHULU PHTAGN
Are the stars right? I love science fiction books, movies, everything. I prefer if you know what/(who) Cthulu is. easygoing, geek, experienced, but want more. Cougars approved. tattoos/piercings/drugs/alcohol all okay. Gutwrenchingore, 19, #104434

COOL 34 RODDER
HOPELESS ROMANTIC, THINKING OF ANOTHER WAY TO SHOW THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE HOW MUCH I CARE AND LOVE THEM! WAKING UP WITH YOU BY MY SIDE. dennis, 62, #104411

SOMETHING TO BE...
I live an active lifestyle and keep myself in decent shape. Enjoy yoga, hikes, biking. Seeking woman who loves to laugh, is socially aware, good natured, easily entertained, creative, caring. toby123, 45, #104313

ATHEISM, ABSURDITY, ART
I'm a fully interactive, genuinely evolved, advanced formula, atypical brainiac with creatively abstract abilities to achieve mental absurdity, poetic epiphanies, develop polished treatises on love, broken heart spasms, douchebags, politics. enanowink, 35, #104407

FAMILY LOVE RESPECT
communication is 95% of any relationship, love, compassion respect honesty empathy patience family forgiving understanding growing together supportive beauty on the inside as well as the out are you the same. sonshine, 36, #104396

MELLOW YET MOTIVATED
I like a girl who can kick ass. I'm most interested in self-motivated people. A girl who is most interested in learning martial arts would be most appropriate for me. 9tnight, 31, #104286

GAY G33K BOY
I am open to a mutually beneficial friendship if the situation/person is right. I am a fun, intelligent guy just looking to enjoy life with other people like me. G33kBoy, 24, #103869

INTELLIGENT, HANDSOME GUY
New to Eugene. Hoping to meet nice lady who shares my belief in progressive political values. If I am younger than you that is a plus, but not necessary. BlueCatB2E, 29, #104290

A GNARLY GUY
I'm looking for someone to be with, to be nice, respectful, and caring person, I'm looking for LTR, me I'm a sensitive person, looking for a guy 21-45 yo. I'm a discreet, sensual, and loving guy. SERIOUSGUY, 49, #103108

JUST FRIENDS
I SAW YOU

LOVEABLE, SILLY PRINCESS
I'm a silly girl, trying to enjoy life by meeting more people and have great conversations. I love coffee, my kitten, my friends, family, plush pillows and soft blankets. IndianSpice, 26, #104406

FUNLOVING GOOD TIME
Just moved here from AZ, love meeting new people. I'm a very active person, love to try new things, very open minded, looking for anyone that like to have fun. Adventurous Dreamer, 19, #104371

DANCIN SAILIN FUN
I am ... looking for someone to make fun on the dance floor and on the water; if you wanna partner for sailing classes and/or dance classes: Let's hook up! lunasea, 33, #104066

CURVY CUTIE
Hello! I am new to the area. Is there anyone who might be able to show me around? I'm 20, LCC student, and fun! Hit me up! blueeyedrae, 21, #104050

HOT AVENUE PRINCESS
You have been chasing me for months in the checkbook register, on staplers and wayward door handles. You couldn't find me, but I found you. Yes, I am EVIL. When: Thursday, December 3, 2009. Where: Workshop for teachers. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901204

SWEET PIE GIRL
You helped me choose a necklace for my girlfriend made by a local artist. Just wanted you to know that my girlfriend LOVED it! Thanks for your help! When: Tuesday, December 1, 2009. Where: Sweet Potato Pie. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #901202

HOT BLONDE GRRL
You: black pea coat, black glasses, ponytail & headband. Roma. I wanted to say 'hi' but was too shy. Wanna get "some" sometime? When: Tuesday, December 1, 2009. Where: Campus. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #901201

free WILL ASTROLOGY

BY ROB BREZSNY

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ARIES (March 21-April 19): "Indignation is one of the most rewarding of emotions," writes Theodore Dalrymple, "as well as one that automatically gives meaning to life ... There is nothing like irritation to get the juices circulating and the mind working." Of all the ideas that have made me irritable and indignant in recent weeks, this one steams me the most. I disagree so completely that I am practically beside myself with paralyzing rage. And as I plunge my attention further and further into his ridiculous proposal, I feel the tension coursing through my body. I sense my mind becoming swampy, my perceptions distorted. There's a good chance that I am inducing in myself a state of stressed-out stupidity. Please don't follow my example, Aries. It's possible that sour fury could be useful to you at other times, but right now you should avoid it. If you want your intelligence to work at peak efficiency in the coming days, you'll need long stretches of tender, lucid calm.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The evidence is incontrovertible: You have definitely acquired more power in 2009. Whether that means you are now sitting in a corner office bossing around a gaggle of subordinates, I don't know. What I do know is that you are in greater charge of your own destiny. You know yourself much better, and are smarter about providing yourself with what you need, when you need it. You have gained access to enormous new reserves of willpower, in part by harnessing the energy of your obsessive tendencies. Blind fate just doesn't have the same control over your life as it used to. More than ever before, you're making decisions based on what's really good for you rather than on your unconscious compulsions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): I trust you've traveled all over creation in 2009 – or have at least exposed yourself to a wide range of novel sights and sounds near your home turf. I pray that you've escaped one shrunken niche, two narrow perspectives, and three low expectations. I'm also hoping that in these last 12 months, you have regularly sought out pleasant jolts and breathtaking vistas that have inspired you to see the big picture of your unfolding destiny. If you haven't been doing these things with the eager abandon you should have, please take the next flight to the other side of the world. Eat unfamiliar food, meet people who are very different from you, listen to strange music, climb a mountain, and get your mind blown.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): So how are you doing with your year-long resurrection project, Cancerian? Have you been taking care of the finishing touches these past few weeks? If not, do so soon. It's high time for you to officially and definitively rise from the dead. Your wandering in the underworld is at an end. Your mourning for broken dreams should be complete. In January, the age of exploration will begin; make sure your reborn spunk is ready for action by then.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): I bet your relationship life will be a source of revolutionary teachings in 2010. Adventures in intimacy and partnership will draw you into some highly educational fun and games. You will be invited to dramatically expand your understanding of the nature of commitment. You will also be asked to dig deeper to discover your real desires, which up until now have been partially camouflaged by more superficial longings that were grafted onto you during the darker days of adolescence. How should you prepare for the interesting tests of the next 12 months? How can you get yourself in shape to earn the demanding gifts that will be within reach? Now is an excellent time to start thinking about those questions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Whenever the tide goes out, the creek I live next to loses a lot of its water to the bay. It becomes a narrow trickle surrounded by stretches of mud. From a distance the mud looks like a wet black desert, but if you get up close you'll see it's covered with tiny furrows, pits, and bulges. This is evidence that many small creatures live there, although only the hungry ducks and egrets know exactly where to look to find them. Be like those birds, Virgo. As you survey your version of the mud flat, ignore anyone who tells you that it's barren. Go searching for the rich pickings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It seems to me that in 2009 you've learned to love the fact that all the world's a stage. You've found roles that have been fun to play, and you've expressed yourself with the nuanced zeal of a skilled actor in an elaborate theatrical production. I have very much enjoyed seeing you reveal the full range of your inner riches. If I were going to award Oscars to the astrological signs, you Libras would get the prize for "Best Performance of One's True Self."

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "The nature of the work is to prepare for a good accident," said filmmaker Sidney Lumet. He was talking about the craft of creating movies, but he could have also been advising you on how to make the most of the coming week. Your task, as I see it, is to set in order everything that can be set in order. Get very organized. Make sure you're well-rehearsed. Be warmed up and highly alert. That way you'll be ready to respond with graceful intensity when serendipitous opportunities arise within the framework you've put in place.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): One of your top accomplishments in 2009 is the way you have united parts of yourself that had not previously been very well connected. It seems you decided that you were tired of being split up into fragmented sub-personalities that had different agendas. Somehow you managed to convince them all to work together in a common cause. Now I'm quite impressed with the new spirit of cooperation that's at work in your depths. I predict it will lead to an unprecedented singleness of purpose in 2010.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In his book *The Way of Transition*, William Bridges defines the "neutral zone" as "that in-between time, after you've let go of your old life and before you have fully discovered and incorporated your new life." Sound familiar? Maybe the neutral zone where you're currently simmering isn't as dramatic as that – maybe you haven't been stripped of every single certainty and you're not wandering in limbo. But I suspect you have at least let go of one aspect of your old familiar rhythm and have yet to ease into the one that'll be familiar in the future. My advice? Don't rush it. Get all you can out of this unique and educational time in the neutral zone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In 2009, the cosmic powers-that-be have been conspiring to get you to expand your self-image and enlarge your understanding of your place in the world. So I trust that in these last 12 months you have started a business or organized a support group or reinvented your physical appearance or begun your masterpiece – or done something to initiate a new phase in your long-term cycle. If for some reason you've been remiss about doing this work, I suggest you scramble to make up for lost time. And if you have been taking advantage of the abundant cosmic help, it'll soon be time to move on to phase two: consolidation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): To prepare for his turn to hit, a Major League baseball player slips a doughnut-shaped piece of metal over the top of his bat, making it a pound or so heavier than it normally is. He then takes a number of practice swings. The theory is that when he removes the doughnut and strides up to home plate to actually hit against a pitcher who's throwing the ball at 90 miles per hour, the bat will feel lighter and he'll be able to swing faster. As you prepare for your own equivalent of going up to bat, Pisces, I urge you to use this as your operative metaphor.

HOMEWORK: Send me predictions for your life in 2010. Where are you headed? Go to FreeWillAstrology.com; click on "Email Rob."

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

TRYING SOMETHING NEW.....
I would like to meet someone who'd like to get together and talk first. **shygirl**, 29, #104399

SEMI-EXPERIENCED SUBMISSIVE

New to the Eugene area and looking for fun. I love bondage, age play, role plays and more! Looking forward to hearing from you. **raerae**, 21, #104051

SHY SEX KITTEN
i'm new to this, still kinda shy sadly vanilla but def want to shake it up and try new things... just looking for a fun play mate. **ANALEE**, 20, #103176

YOU GOOD ENOUGH?
nothing serious, just something to get me hot. tattoos a plus. i like being fun and playful in the bedroom but i need a man to throw me around sometimes). **pleasurekitty1985**, 24, #102707

ALLUREKITY
The next phase in my life..... **Allurekat**, 45, #102675



WOMEN SEEKING WOMEN

BEAUTIFULNIGHTMARE
Looking for a beautiful,young,sensual,long hair Girly Girl! Come explore with me while my boyfriend watches or plays with my permission! Must be well groomed!! I am just looking for a playmate! **Sweetdreamz**, 30, #104403

SEXY PLAYMATE
1st time. Only into "Normal" stuff. Looking for a women friend who wants to be playmates. Whips and chains, no thanks. Sensual message, cuddling,girls nights out and sexy hikes outdoors. **oolala**, 26, #104215

FUN SIZE!
24' 5'2" around 95lbs. Seeking a woman who is around my age, I don't really have a preference on body type. I want a girl who can be herself! **Akira**, 24, #104214

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Savage Love

WORDS OF PURE WISDOM by Dan Savage



I am a 23-year-old male who has been in a relationship with a great woman for four years now. She is an amazing person, and we oftentimes talk about marriage. The issue is this: I have a foot fetish and she is fully aware of it. She doesn't like the idea of me kissing her feet or indulging my fetish in any way. We have sex quite often, and I've always let it slide that she doesn't want any part of my fetish. I don't know what to do, because I'm at a stage in my sexual growth where I need to experience my fetish. I'm getting mixed advice from different people and I just want a straight answer. The sex we have is amazing, but I would enjoy it so much, more if I could act on my desires once in a while.

Sexually Frustrated Fetishist

Here's a straight answer: Your amazing girlfriend is an amazingly selfish lover, and I'm amazed that you've put up with her bullshit for as long as you have. A foot fetish is not uncommon or outrageous; as fetishes go, SFF, yours is the least taxing for a nonkinky partner. It's not like you're into shit or choking or Christian side hugs. Any amazing woman who truly loved you would regard indulging you as a no-brainer.

Share time: I have a good friend who's not kinky at all – unless you count being gay – and he's a runner who goes for long runs every Saturday morning. When he gets home, he handcuffs his boyfriend to a chair in his kitchen, duct-tapes one of his sweaty sneakers over the boyfriend's face, and leaves him there while he has breakfast. My friend – who came to me for advice when his boyfriend confessed his fetish – isn't really into guys with sneakers duct-taped to their faces. But it gets his lover off, and isn't that what lovers are for?

Your lover has had things – she's had you – on her terms for four years, SFF, which means you're going to have to play the breakup card. It's the only leverage you have. Tell her that if she can indulge your fetish – happily and regularly – and take some pleasure in giving you pleasure, she might be "the one." If she can't or won't, she obviously isn't. (Not that "the one" is anything other than a destructive myth, but for the sake of winning this argument, go ahead and use it.)

Finally, SFF, don't let the girlfriend – or anyone else – tell you that you're threatening to end this relationship over something trivial. Sexual fulfillment is important, particularly if your relationship is exclusive. And the "triviality" of your kink cuts both ways: If your kink is so trivial, why not just indulge you then? And in a long-term relationship – or a marriage – one partner's sexual selfishness and another's sexual frustration rarely prove trivial over the long haul. They're more often grounds for divorce.

I am a 35-year-old partnered gay man, but I've been having an online conversation with a married bisexual man that has become an ongoing game of sexual dares. It's a safe form of sexual adventurism for both of us. None of our dares has involved sexual contact with another person, but some of our dares have begun to involve other people at the edges. For example, we've posted ads to Craigslist as submissives and responded to some of the replies from dominant men. None of these interactions with third parties will result in actual contact. It feels a little like we are exploiting the "flakes" aspect of Craigslist, i.e., it's common to hear from someone a few times after making contact on Craigslist and then never hear from them again. But it also feels a little like we are using these folks. Is this expansion of our game to involve other people ethical?

Concerned About Harming Craigslist Fellas

P.S. By the way, this letter is itself part of a dare. If you publish it and include a dare in the published reply, I will have to fulfill that dare.

The expansion of your game to Craigslist will annoy those guys on CL who are looking for actual contact, CAHCF, but as those guys amount to something less than 0.02 percent of the men trawling Craigslist at any given moment, I wouldn't worry about it. Everyone knows that CL is overrun with flakes and game players and picture collectors; the odds that the "dominant men" you've chatted with on CL are interested in actual contact are pretty damn slim. (Guys interested in real-time BDSM play are likelier to be lurking on Recon.com or in your local hardware store.) So post at will.

P.S. I dare you to go to www.tinyurl.com/ye3otsh and take the pledge.

I'm a straight guy in my late 20s. I have a girlfriend of several years whom I live with and I love very much. I just read your most recent column, in which you used the acronyms HND (honest nonmonogamous dude) and CPOS (cheating piece of shit), and it struck a nerve. I have never been an HND; I have in the past been a CPOS (though not in this relationship). My girlfriend is lovely, supportive and generally GGG, and though the sex is good, I have a significantly higher libido than she does and I would like to have a little more variety in my sex life. I want to be an HND, but I don't know how to broach the subject with the girlfriend without ruining our relationship. We are very open about our sex life and our relationship in general, but I think this is probably a "next level" topic that may not go over very well. How do I bring this up without screwing up our relationship beyond repair?

Aspiring Honest Nonmonogamous Dude

Based on what you've learned about yourself in past relationships, AHND, i.e., that you're a CPOS waiting to happen, I would encourage you to err on the side of screwing up your current relationship with an honest conversation about your mismatched libidos and your natural and normal desire for a little variety. Lies, damn lies and statistics all demonstrate that, in time, one or the other or both of you will cheat. Better to toss that out there now, even at the risk of calmly winding down this relationship before you revert to form/CPOS than to see the relationship explode after someone, most likely you, winds up cheating.

And while we're on the subject of cheating ...

I suppose I'm obligated to say a few words about Tiger Woods. First, let's pretend that Elin Nordegren cheated on Tiger and that Tiger went after Elin with a golf club. Would Elin be viewed as the sole transgressor in the marriage then? Probably not. And second, daily papers and cable-news outlets reacted to Tiger's "transgressions" by changing the names in the same "Why do powerful men cheat?" stories they've been pimping since Bill Clinton blew a load on a White House intern. For the millionth time: Men cheat for the same reasons women cheat, i.e., because they're bored or horny or unfulfilled or desperate to see someone else naked for a change. People cheat because monogamy isn't natural and we are wired to cheat. That doesn't make cheating right, of course; people should honor their commitments, and blah-de-nine-iron-blah. But we shouldn't encourage people to make commitments we all know they're unlikely to keep. The end.

AUCTION NOTICE: Want to answer a question or two in an upcoming column? I'm auctioning off a chance to give advice in this space to raise money for some worthy charities. Go to www.tinyurl.com/SLauction for details and to bid.

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